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Transplant of sexual organs forbidden by theologians

JEDDAH. March 21. (AP): Islamic theologians ruled at the end of an annual conference today that transplant of human sexual organs is forbidden by the Muslim faith.

The theologians, members of the Islamic fiqh (jurisprudence) academy, an affiliate of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, said other parts of the genitals which do not carry hereditary genes can be transplanted.

"The testicles and ovaries will remain to carry hereditary characteristics even after they are transplanted to the recipient so it is not allowed to transplant them," said the scholars at the end of their weeklong conference.

The conference represents all the OIC member states, including Iran which is predominantly Shiite.

The scholars meet every year to give their

rulings on contemporary issues of concern to Muslims. Their rulings are not binding on member states but governments of the OIC can act on their basis. Each country may also have its own body of theologians.

Among their injunction at this conference, the scholars said it was forbidden to inseminate a fertilised ovum in any other woman except the wife of the man from whom the sperms are taken. "No

illegitimate pregnancies are allowed," said the ruling.

This is a ruling that has already been enacted in most Islamic countries where test-tube babies hospitals have opened, and where it is strictly forbidden to mix the sperm and egg of anyone other than husband and wife.

The Jeddah gathering also said excessive fertilised eggs should be left without

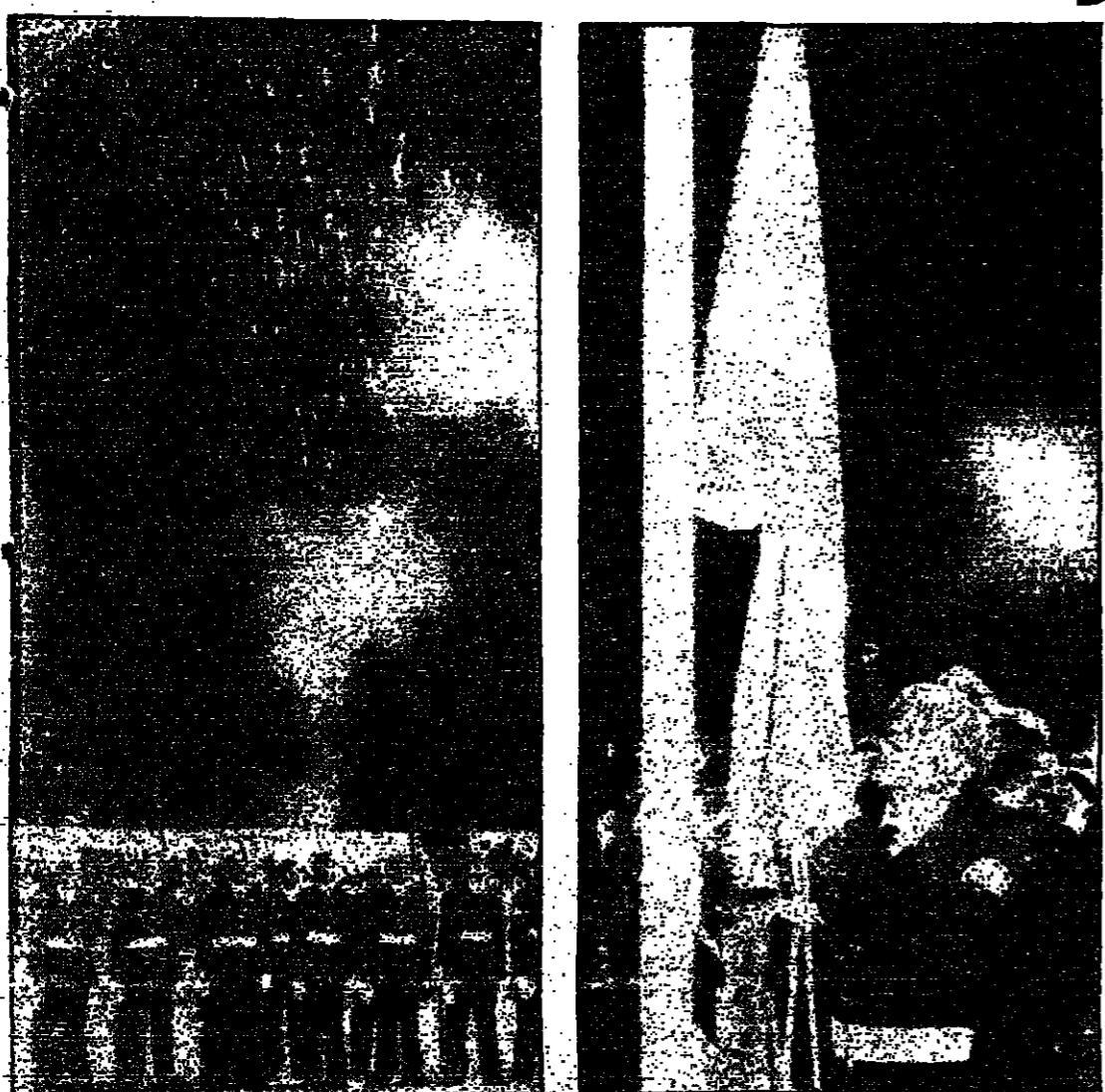
any medical care in order to die naturally. Hospitals in the oil-rich region are advanced in transplanting organs such as hearts and kidneys, including cases of accidents where limbs have been severed.

This conference made no mention of non-sexual organs. But it specifically ruled against rejoining of human limbs amputated according to the Islamic sharia or law, for robbery or other crimes. Under sharia, a

convicted thief will have his arm cut from the wrist for the first crime and from the elbow for the second offense for which he is convicted.

The theologians, in their lengthy statement, took in political issues led by the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants into Israel. They denounced this emigration and urged the Islamic nation to stand firm against it.

Namibians rejoice to a new dawn



A Namibian guard of honour stands on the pitch inside Windhoek stadium as fireworks mark the birth of world's newest nation. At night Namibian soldier hoists the flag of Namibia. (Reuter wirephoto)

Nujoma sworn in as President amid applause

WINDHOEK, March 21. (Agencies): Tens of thousands of Namibians took to the streets in a riot of pomp, colour and pageantry today to celebrate their nation's independence after 75 years of South African rule.

Tribal dancers, warriors on horseback, brass bands, drum majorettes and carnival floats choked the centre of the Namibian capital in a five-km (three-mile) procession from the black township of Katutura to Independence Stadium in the

affluent white suburbs.

President Sam Nujoma, 60-year-old leader of the former guerrilla South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo), was sworn in earlier today at a ceremony hosted by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

As well as missing the march-past he did not turn up for a series of meetings with senior Western leaders, including the Soviet and West German foreign ministers and a French cabinet minister, who had gathered at a Windhoek hotel.



Sam Nujoma (left) swears the oath of office as he is sworn in as Namibia's first president. UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar administers the oath of office. (Reuter wirephoto)

Amir's message

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed met today with Nujoma and delivered to him a message from HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah.

Sheikh Sabah also conveyed to President Nujoma greetings of HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and the Kuwaiti government on the occasion of Namibia's independence.

"Africa's last colony is from this hour liberated," President Nujoma said in his message.

"We love our independent country," read one poster in the march, which was expected to take nearly six hours to pass through the normally sleepy town.

Just 400 metres (yards) from the march route, at the Tintenpalast (ink palace) seat of government since the days of imperial German colonial rule, Nujoma's cabinet were sworn in to take formal control from Pretoria's governor.

The cabinet, which includes representatives of Namibia's opposition parties, reaffirmed their oaths in front of a huge independence rally later today.

Independence and Swapo's assumption of power marks the culmination of the movement's long and bitter campaign against South African rule.

After a 23-year guerrilla war which claimed thousands of lives, democracy flowered last November when Swapo won a decisive victory in UN-supervised elections.

Namibia finally won its independence early today.

It was supposed to be freedom at midnight, but 18 minutes elapsed before the impudent crowd saw the South African tricolour flag lowered for the last time.

"Down, down, down," they shouted as two white South African army corporals in battle dress began hauling the rope to the sound of the South African national anthem.

A few seconds later, up went the flag of the new Namibia, raised by a black sergeant from the 500-strong national army.

Many in the crowd wept openly and others punched their fists in the air in a black power salute.

■ Turkey today recognised the new state of Namibia, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"Turkey is pleased to recognise the Namibian state and has decided to establish diplomatic relations," spokesman Murat Sungar said.

■ The 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference today hailed the independence of Namibia and pledged complete solidarity with the people of South Africa in their struggle against apartheid.

Manila newspapers today published the text of a letter sent by Imelda to President George Bush offering to turn over her fortune to a five-member international panel, which would distribute the funds to the Filipino people.

Jurors know of her shoes only

Imelda cronies protest

MANILA, March 21. (AP): About 500 supporters of the late Ferdinand Marcos spat on and burned an American flag in front of the US embassy today to protest his widow Imelda's trial in the United States.

The 60-year-old former first lady went on trial yesterday in a US district court in New York City on racketeering charges. She could be imprisoned for 50 years and fined \$1 million if convicted of all charges.

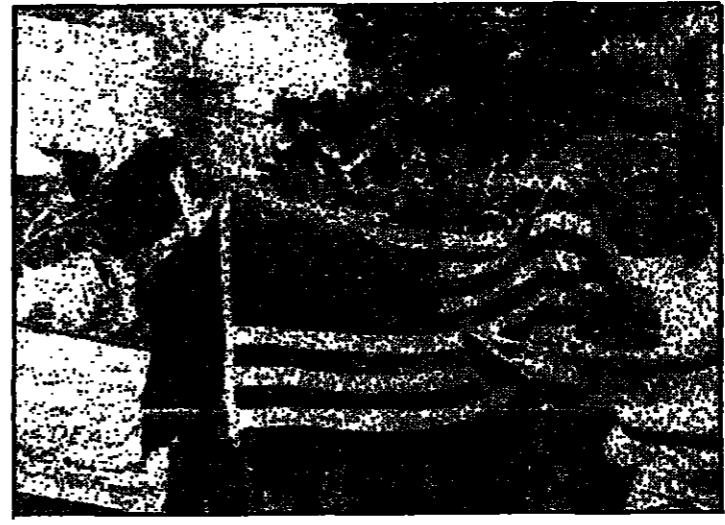
Marcos supporters carried placards demanding "Justice for Imelda" and "We love the Marcos family" during the generally peaceful protest.

Police stood guard in front of the seashore embassy compound but did not interfere.

"We are here in support of our first lady," speaker Luz Domingo told the crowd. "We are here to protest American intervention and the injustice done to her."

Another speaker, attorney Romeo Cayetano, said the trial of a former first lady on foreign soil was an affront to Philippine sovereignty and showed the Manila government "has no honour."

Manila newspapers today published the text of a letter sent by Imelda to President George Bush offering to turn over her fortune to a five-member international panel, which would distribute the funds to the Filipino people.



About 500 loyal supporters of Marcos burned the effigy of Uncle Sam and the United States flag outside the US embassy in Manila yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

In New York, prospective jurors in the fraud trial of Imelda said they did not know very much about the former Philippines first lady — except that she owned more than 1,000 pairs of shoes.

"I heard about the shoes, she bought a lot of shoes, and that's about it," said David Gong, a 26-year-old graduate student who was among 10 people who passed the first test yesterday as jury selection began in US district court.

Meanwhile, the Philippine military filed rebellion charges yesterday against seven opposition politicians and businessmen in connection with the December coup attempt against President Corazon Aquino.

Vicente Puyat, a banker and a defeated senatorial candidate of the opposition in the May 1987 elections, was accused before a suburban criminal court of harbouring Maj. Wilhelm Doromal, one of the coup leaders, in his poultry farm. Doromal was arrested Thursday.

A separate recommendation to the Justice Department also was made to prosecute Puyat for "illegal possession of firearms in furtherance of rebellion."

Bridge across Iran-Soviet borders opens

ATHENS, March 21. (UPI): Iran and the Soviet Union today reopened, after 73 years, an old wooden bridge across the Araxes River that forms the border between the two countries in the Azerbaijan region, Tehran radio said.

The bridge at Jolfa, about 400 miles (640 km) northwest of Tehran, was reopened to allow people living in the border areas to travel more freely from one country to the other.

A Tehran radio dispatch monitored in Athens said the bridge, closed since the 1917 Russian revolution, was reopened after an agreement between the two sides.

Azerbaijanis from the Soviet side crossed the bridge to visit friends and relatives in Iran, and were welcomed with flowers by people from Jolfa and nearby Marand, who formed a special committee to receive them.



Deng steps down

China's 85-year-old senior leader Deng Xiaoping formally relinquished his last official post as chairman of the state military commission on Wednesday.

His resignation had been expected since last November when he stepped down from the Communist Party's Central Military Commission — the real controlling force over the 3.5-million strong People's Liberation Army. Picture shows Deng with his daughter. (Reuter wirephoto)

Kabul coup leaders sentenced to death as rebels step up operations

ISLAMABAD, March 21. (Agencies): The pro-Soviet Afghan government has sentenced to death a number of military officers arrested during a massive crackdown against those suspected of involvement in the recent coup attempt, Western diplomats sources said today.

They also reported Afghan rebels have stepped up operations against Kabul government forces in several areas following a winter lull in fighting.

The mujahedeen, who based mostly in Pakistan and backed by the United States and some Middle East nations, have failed to capture any major urban centres despite the Soviet withdrawal last year and are desperately seeking a victory that would boost their contention they are still capable of defeating the Kabul regime.

Five mujahedeen rockets landed on Kabul yesterday, killing one person and injuring eight on the

eve of spring and the Afghan new year, a government spokesman said.

President Najibullah, in a televised new year's message to the nation, appealed to Islamic rebel commanders to work out ceasefire agreements with his government.

He also asked the five million refugees of the 11-year civil war now living in Iran and Pakistan to come home.

The Afghan government on Sunday announced it had expelled 24 members of the central committee of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) for involvement in the revolt. Most were members of Tanai's "Khalq" faction of the PDPA which has been bitterly opposed to Najibullah's "Parcham" wing.

The diplomatic sources said only three of those named, Tanai, former air force chief Gen. Abdul

Qader, and former central committee secretary Niaz Mohammad, have escaped. They said the others, including former ambassador to Moscow Sayed Mohammad Gulabzai, were in prison in Kabul.

"Multiple sources say the wave of arrests in Kabul is continuing," one source said. "Khalq air force officers, and any officer from Tanai's home town in Paktia province are reported to be particular targets."

"Trials of those arrested are already underway, with death sentences already handed down to a number of army and air force officers, including generals."

■ Senior US and Soviet officials in Helsinki opened two days of talks today on prospects for a solution to the conflict in Afghanistan.



Heroin seized

Iraqi businessman Riadh Mohammed Hassan is stopped at the Manila airport in the Philippines after government agents find packs of heroin, estimated to be worth more than \$100,000, strapped to his waist. Hassan was to have left for Dubai but was detained for questioning. (Reuter wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lee wins six-year term: President Lee Teng-Hui won his first six-year term today in a vote by the electoral college that has been the main target of continuing pro-democracy protests.

Lee, the only presidential candidate, received support from 641 of the 668 voting members of the electoral college, or national assembly. The others cast invalid ballots.

Lee, 67, is chairman of the ruling Nationalist Party.

The presidential vote took place at a meeting hall in a rural suburb of Taipei guarded by about 2,000 police in full riot gear.

About 300 protesters led by Huang Hwa, the opposition party's unofficial choice for president, marched to the hall to try to stop elderly assemblymen, who have not faced re-election in more than four decades from voting. (AP)

Burma's military elite promote themselves: Members of the ruling military junta in Burma have promoted themselves one rank each, the state press said yesterday.

Rangoon-based Western diplomats were unable to provide any explanation for the promotions.

Newspapers have since Monday referred to the senior members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council as having one rank higher than in the past, but there has been no official government announcement about the promotions.

According to the newspaper accounts, the commander-in-chief of the army, formerly Lt. Gen. Than Swe, became a full general; Rear Admiral Maung Khin an admiral, and Maj. Gen. Tin Tun a lieutenant general. (AP)

Deadline extended for scholarship: The deadline to apply for the Dag Hammarskjold Memorial Scholarship Fund has been extended until May 31 to enable more Third World journalists to apply, scholarship officers said yesterday.

The fund finances three promising Third World journalists to cover the 3-month General Assembly session from September through December. The programme is named in honour of the late secretary-general of the world organisation.

Inquiries should be sent to Ms Maria Garcia, Room S-301, United Nations, NY, L0017. Telephone (212) 963-7129, Fax (212) 751-0850. (AP)

Poll violence kills 11 people: Violence in Bangladesh's rural elections, which are widely seen as a test of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad's commitment to stamp out election fraud, has killed at least 11 people and wounded around 1,000 in one week, police and polling officials said today.

Militants get away through false bail

AMRITSAR, India, March 21: (UPI) Authorities are investigating the issuing of fraudulent bail orders that permitted at least a dozen suspected Sikh extremists to escape earlier this month from Amritsar's high-security Central Jail, officials said today.

"Proper inquiries into the whole drama are in progress. None of the guilty will be spared," declared Amritsar Deputy Commissioner, Sarabjit Singh, who described the orders as "fake."

Although he and other officials declined to reveal many details of the investigation, it appeared the probe was focused on a low-level judge, J.S. Pannu, whose signature appeared on the documents directing authorities to release the prisoners on bail.

The escapes came to light March 15, when T.N. Gupta, a special judge who presides over cases filed under the terrorist and disruptive activities act, ordered police to produce in his Amritsar court Bhaninder Singh, a Canadian national, officials said.

Bhaninder Singh was being held on charges stemming from several murder and extortion cases and is reportedly a close associate of Gurbachan Singh Manochal, the self-styled lieutenant general of the Khalistan Commando Force, one of the leading Sikh extremist groups fighting for independence for northern Punjab state.

In addition to the intelligence officer, the men killed yesterday were a head constable in the state police force and two civilian government staffers, according to sources who spoke on condition of not being identified further.

The killings occurred when curfew was relaxed during daytime hours yesterday to enable people to buy food and conduct business.

After the curfew was reimposed, government forces launched a series of overnight raids in an effort to flush out the militants.

Mosques blared calls for people to awaken and take to the streets in an effort to thwart the searches.

Lanka hopes to improve Arab ties

Ranjan Wijeratne to close the Israeli office before April 20.

The Israeli section in Colombo regretted the president's decision which it said was made at a time when many nations were establishing relations with Israel, not the reverse.

Sri Lanka cut diplomatic ties with Israel 20 years ago but in 1984 allowed an office representing Israeli interests to be opened under the auspices of the US embassy.

At that time the government also invited Mossad, the Israeli secret service, to train Sri Lankan security forces in the fight

against Tamil separatist guerrillas.

Premadasa said Colombo would resume diplomatic relations with Israel after it recognised the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the legitimate representative of the Palestine people and withdrew from the occupied territories.

"It is surprising that Sri Lanka, which was affected by terror many times in the past, is supporting such an organisation (as the PLO)," the Israeli official said.

The Foreign Ministry official noted that while Sri Lanka had severed ties, Hungary, Poland and Ethiopia had renewed diplomatic relations with Israel in recent months.

state's interests, saying the move amounted to support for the PLO.

"In supporting the PLO and organisations that continue to use terrorism, Sri Lanka was encouraging violence," a Foreign Ministry official said.

"It is surprising that Sri Lanka, which was affected by terror many times in the past, is supporting such an organisation (as the PLO)," the Israeli official said.

The Foreign Ministry official noted that while Sri Lanka had severed ties, Hungary, Poland and Ethiopia had renewed diplomatic relations with Israel in recent months.

China pampers army

Deng quits as military commission chief

BEIJING, March 21: (Agencies) China's financially-strapped government announced today a hefty budget increase for the military but Western analysts said it was less than the army had wanted in return for its role as saviour last year.

Finance Minister Wang Bingqian, presenting the state budget to the annual meeting of the National People's Congress, said 28.97 billion yuan (\$6.1 billion) would be spent on defence in 1990, a 15.2 per cent increase over 1989.

Taking inflation into account it was the People's Liberation Army's

Defence spending amounts to 8.7 per cent of total planned expenditure in 1990, only a slight increase from an 8.3 per cent slice of the financial pie last year.

Another Western analyst said it was difficult to know just how much the army would receive as the state budget probably represented only about half of its income.

Pursuing capitalist-style economic reforms in the 1980s, the armed forces earned billions of dollars by turning military factories into production lines churning out consumer goods like refrigerators and soft drinks, and investing in hotels.

"It is also essential for the army to engage in production and business operations," said President Yang Shangkun in 1988.

But because of a government austerity programme launched that year and subsequent industrial stagnation, it is likely that the armed forces are earning far less in 1990.

Because of the crackdown and the resulting international outcry, the hotels in which the military invested are now half empty and Western governments have ended military co-operation.

"The army was expecting something for its loyalty but there is little evidence of this since last June," the second analyst added, referring to new military hardware.

Shortly after the budget speech, China's rubber-stamping Parliament formally accepted the resignation of senior leader Deng Xiaoping from his last official post as chairman of the State Military Commission, a largely ceremonial position.

Deng, 85, had been expected to step down since he retired from

biggest rise in years and compared with a meagre 7.9 per cent boost for agriculture — China's first stated priority.

"It's the pay-off for being loyal and true," a Western military analyst said, referring to the army's suppression of democracy demonstration in Beijing last June, the biggest challenge to the Communist Party since the 1949 revolution.

"The increase is expected but it's not as much as they had hoped for. They had hoped for a 25 per cent rise in real terms," the analyst commented.



Chinese President Yang Shangkun (centre) party chief Jiang Zemin (right) and NPC chairman Wan Li Wack go into hall for the second day of the National People's Congress session. (Reuter wirephoto)

the Communist Party's Military Commission — the real source of military power in China — last November.

Deng was replaced then by his protege, party leader Jiang Zemin, who is the only candidate to head the State Commission.

Diplomats and Chinese officials are in no doubt that behind the scenes Deng will remain the most powerful man in China as long as he is capable.

Even if the army, more than three million-strong, gets less money than it wanted, it remains a powerful political force.

Diplomats said its importance had been enhanced by the critical

role the Romanian army played in toppling the leadership in the December revolution, diplomats said.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army is the strong pillar of the people's democratic dictatorship. Governments at all levels should show concern for and give support to the building and reform of the army," Premier Li Peng said yesterday, praising the army's "heroic role" in crushing last June's protests.

Many senior officers appear to resent the army being dragged back into domestic politics and made an international policing force at the cost of its popular support, diplomats said.

HK's poll blueprint unveiled

HONG KONG, March 21: (AP) The government unveiled the blueprint today for next year's first direct election in this British colony, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

Eighteen members of the law-making legislative council will be directly elected in 1991 instead of the 10 originally planned because the government decided to increase the pace of the democratic changes.

The 57-member council currently consists of 10 government officials, 20 government-appointed members and members elected by interest groups such as lawyers and other professionals.

Under the new scheme, the 60-member legislature next year will embody, in addition to the elected members, 21 interest-group members, 18 appointed members and three government officials.

The newly created post of deputy president will chair the meeting of the council in the absence of the governor.

The blueprint divides Hong Kong into nine geographical constituencies ranging from 70,000-300,000 people.

For the first time, there will be seats in the council for members representing the tourist industry, the financial sector, and construction and real estate groups.

But the number of directly elected seats in 1991 may increase only to 20, the same number that would serve in 1997 under the draft basic law, the constitution under which Beijing will govern the post-colonial Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong government has made it clear that despite its desire for China to agree to faster democratisation, a smooth transition was important for maintaining confidence in the future of the territory.

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Mandela praises superpowers

WINDHOEK, March 21, (AP): African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela met with the foreign ministers of the United States and Soviet Union today and praised their leaders for easing international tensions.

"One of the things we deeply appreciate are the efforts made by the world powers to relax world tensions," Mandela said before meeting in Namibia with US Secretary of State James Baker.

Leaders from around the world are using the festivities surrounding Namibia's independence from 75 years of South African rule to hold meetings on a host of issues.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Baker have been discussing prospects for a ceasefire in the Angolan civil war, in which the United States and the Soviet Union support opposing sides.

One important meeting today occurred between South African President F.W. de Klerk and Shevardnadze. It was the first time a South African president has met a member of the Kremlin government since the Soviet Union broke off relations 34 years ago over South Africa's system of racial segregation, known as apartheid.

De Klerk said the meeting was promising and constructive; Shevardnadze said it was useful.

Aides to Shevardnadze said he wanted to visit South Africa, but that the political climate was not yet right.

Mandela has publicly criticised Baker's plan to visit De Klerk in Cape Town later this week, saying it sends an inaccurate message that the South African government has made meaningful changes.

However, Mandela's colleague, Walter Sisulu, the second highest-ranking ANC official inside South Africa, said he had changed plans to fly to London today so that he could meet Baker in South Africa on Friday.

Mandela was to meet Baker at his tem-

porary residence, but at the last minute, phoned and asked the senior US cabinet member to come to him. Baker agreed and Mandela met him in the delivery and apologised for the change.

Mandela had been meeting with Shevardnadze for more than an hour, and the Soviet foreign minister left moments before Baker arrived.

Afterward, Mandela told reporters: "We had very fruitful discussions, and as you would expect, there were differences. But I would like you to concentrate on the friendship that exists between the ANC and the government, the Congress and the people of the United States."



Gloria Estefan ... hospitalised.

Pop singer Estefan injured in accident

TOBYHANNA, Pennsylvania, March 21, (UPI): Pop singer Gloria Estefan and five members of her entourage were injured in a bus-truck collision yesterday on a snowy highway in the Pocono mountains.

A spokeswoman at community medical centre in Scranton said Estefan was admitted to the hospital. Her condition was not immediately available.

State police said the accident occurred in the Westbound lanes of Interstate 380 near Tobyhanna and involved Estefan's tour bus and at least one tractor-trailer.

Estefan and the Miami Sound Machine had been scheduled to

perform last night at the Onondaga County War Memorial in Syracuse, New York. The accident forced cancellation of the concert.

State police did not immediately release details of the accident. Tobyhanna is about 20 miles (32 km) southeast of Scranton.

Bonita Ferguson, a spokeswoman at community medical centre, said Estefan and six other people — five members of the singer's entourage and a truck driver — underwent emergency treatment.

"From what I'm told, she is being admitted," Ferguson said.

Containment of Soviet Union has succeeded: Bush

WASHINGTON, March 21, (AP): President George Bush, saying US military might helped bring about the shrinking of communism, yesterday warned of political turbulence ahead and cautioned against moving away from the US role as world peacekeeper.

In a 32-page report to Congress, Bush laid out a new US national security strategy in the wake of the dramatic shifts in the communist world and spelled out his hopes for securing three major arms control agreements this year.

He said the US postwar policy of containment "of an aggressive, repressive Soviet Union ... has succeeded brilliantly."

But, he added, "the pivotal responsibility for

ensuring the stability of the international balance remains ours, even as its requirements change in a new era. As the world enters a period of new hope for peace, it would be foolhardy to neglect the basic conditions of security that are bringing it about."

The president, in a separate statement, said his new national security strategy "reflects these changes ... but it is grounded in realism."

The annual report produced by Bush's National Security Council said that Western rearmament and economic boom in the 1980s helped trigger "the systemic crisis engulfing the communist world."

"We have seen powerful, pent-up democratic forces unleashed all across Eastern Europe that

have overthrown communist dictatorships and are reversing the pattern of Soviet dominance," it said.

"Such fundamental political change will likely be turbulent. There may be setbacks and new sources of instability" as the Soviet Union and the states of Eastern Europe "advance into historically uncharted waters."

Bush, in his statement, said: "While providing adequately for our defence, we will look to our economic well-being as the foundation of our long-term strength."

The report said: "Our goal is to move beyond containment, to seek the integration of the Soviet Union into the international system as a constructive partner."

Pointdexter jury to see Reagan video testimony

WASHINGTON, March 21, (UPI): The first full day of defence testimony in John Pointdexter's Iran-Contra trial features former president Ronald Reagan, who insisted in videotaped testimony he did not know about key parts of the scandal and never ordered aides to lie.

The defence planned today to begin showing jurors seven hours and 40 minutes of videotaped testimony Reagan provided under oath in Los Angeles Feb 16 and 17. The video testimony was expected to last until mid-day tomorrow.

The prosecution rested its case yesterday arguing that Pointdexter, 53, who was Reagan's national security adviser, was a mastermind behind the worst scandal of Reagan's presidency.

The retired navy rear admiral is charged with five felony counts of lying to the US Congress and then trying to block its investigation of the scandal. He is the highest-ranking administration official to stand trial in the Iran-Contra affair.

While the seven-women, five-man jury had not seen the nine videotapes, their contents are not a surprise. Printed transcripts were released to reporters on Feb 22 and the resulting stories were 22 and the resulting stories were 22 printed and broadcast worldwide.

The tapes have never been seen on television, however.

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Nasa to rescue miswired Titan 3

WASHINGTON, March 21, (AP): The National Aeronautics and Space Administration will talk with aerospace company officials tomorrow about sending astronauts to rescue a \$15-million communications satellite stranded in space by a miswired Titan 3 rocket.

The intelsat 6 satellite is whirling around earth at an altitude of 276 miles (444 kilometers) — about 22,000 miles (35,400 kilometers) lower than it should be to do its job.

"The design was wrong," said Judy Stowell, a spokeswoman for Martin Marietta Corp., which built the rocket. "Our analysis shows an engineering design error caused the vehicle to be wired improperly."

As a result, after the Titan was launched on March 14, the satellite didn't separate automatically as it was supposed to. When engineers sent a separation signal, a small rocket that was to boost the satellite to its duty station stayed with the spent Titan and left the satellite marooned.

A Martin Marietta spokesman was quoted by the Denver Post as saying that the Titan had been wired to launch two satellites and that the separation signal went to a location where there was none. But Ms Stowell said yesterday that explanation was premature and that two committees were investigating the failure.

While Martin Marietta searched for the cause, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration scheduled its meeting at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston with representatives of Intelsat, owner of the satellite, and Hughes Aircraft, its builder.

Intelsat, a 118-nation consortium, did not insure the satellite, which was to have gone into service over the Atlantic Ocean. A spokesman, Tony Trujillo, said it was the most sophisticated communications satellite ever built, capable of carrying 120,000 telephone calls simultaneously.

Police advised motorists not to use a main highway near the city after black youths blocked the road with logs dragged off a commandeered timber truck.



Gonzalez freed

MANUEL Leal Gonzalez (center) is embraced by relatives and friends after his release from a Santiago prison. Gonzalez is the first political prisoner released under the new government of President Patricio Aylwin. Aylwin pardoned 46 out of 430 people imprisoned during the government of President Augusto Pinochet. (Reuter wirephoto)

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Tanks roll in Romania as riots kill six

TIGRU MURES, Romania, March 21, (UPI): Army tanks and troops kept rival ethnic groups apart today following overnight clashes that left at least six people dead and nearly 300 wounded.

The tanks rolled into the Tigr Mures' main square late yesterday to break up fighting by rival groups of demonstrators who battled with iron bars, axes and clubs in Transylvania's worst ethnic unrest since World War II.

A spokesman for the Mures county provisional government confirmed six people were killed in the fighting and 294 wounded, 36 of them seriously, the official news agency Rompress said. At least 318 have been injured since bitter ethnic rioting erupted Monday.

Despite the military intervention scattered violence continued through the night, and one of the

city's main hotels was stormed and heavily damaged.

Tigr Mures, an industrial and cultural centre in the picturesque upper Mures valley about 200 miles northwest of Bucharest, was reported calm today morning, but the situation remained tense as a group of about 100 ethnic Hungarians continued to occupy the city's main square.

An investigating panel commissioned by the national government in an emergency meeting late Tuesday was dispatched to Tigr Mures to assess the situation.

The official Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug said there were reports that ethnic Hungarians in surrounding villages were arming themselves and forming combat units.

"Some have already arrived (in) Tigr Mures by buses," Tanjug said.

The violence followed a week of escalating tension over Hungarian demands for more cultural autonomy, including schools in their native language and Hungarian-language books and newspapers.

The Western province of Transylvania, where most of Romania's Hungarian minority is concentrated, has seen a resurgence of Hungarian nationalism since the Dec. 22 overthrow of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, who aggressively carried out a policy of forced assimilation.

What started as a "dialogue" Tuesday between ethnic Hungarians and Romanians outside the provincial government's headquarters "ultimately turned into a violent clash during which tens of

persons were wounded, several of them very badly," the official Romanian news agency Rompress said.

Romanians from surrounding towns arrived in buses and trucks, attacking ethnic Hungarians with primitive axes and iron bars.

After several hours of violence, army troops backed by tanks stationed outside the city entered the town square and separated the fighting factions.

The tanks remained in position in the Main Square, which was littered with broken park benches and other debris.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn sent an urgent message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Tuesday expressing "profound anxiety" over the "serious atrocities" committed against ethnic Hungarians, the official Hungarian news agency MTI said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Warning to drivers

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, March 21. (AP): The road administration will erect traffic signs to warn drivers of a frog crossing, Swedish television said yesterday.

The signs will stay up for a few summer weeks, when frogs outside the town of Sjosa in the province of Sormland leave their winter nests on one side of the road and cross over to mate in Sjosa bay.

No-visa accord

BUDAPEST, March 21, (Reuter): West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will visit Hungary on the eve of Sunday's elections to sign an accord abolishing bilateral visa requirements, Hungarian officials said yesterday.

Foreign Ministry head of department Tade Alfoldi told Reuters the no-visa agreement would take effect on May 1.

Watercolour sold

PARIS, March 21, (AP): A rare Van Gogh watercolour sold for \$4.6 million yesterday during an auction of impressionist art.

The price fetched for "Les Toits" (The Roofops) at the prestigious Drouot-Montaigne auction house fell within predictions of 25-30 million francs (\$4.5 million).

Nato's nuclear arms

BRUSSELS, March 21, (Reuter): Nato will keep an array of nuclear weapons in Europe in future, despite the prospect of German unification and massive changes in East-West relations, a top Nato official said yesterday.

Assistant Secretary-General Henning Wegener said the number of nuclear weapons would be reduced through negotiations with Moscow, once East and West had started to implement an agreement to cut conventional forces in Europe.

Bombs explode

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, March 21, (AP): Two IRA bombs exploded at an east Belfast missiles plant yesterday, slightly injuring four people, and in a separate attack gunman killed a north Belfast Protestant, police said.

Police headquarters in Belfast said in a statement that the blasts at the Short Brothers plant had been preceded by warning telephone calls from the Irish Republican Army to Belfast media.

Compassionate hunt

LONDON, March 21, (AP): The detective who will lead the hunt for alleged Nazi war criminals living in Britain pledged yesterday that the investigation would be "sensitive and compassionate."

Detective chief superintendent Tony Comben said he had begun planning how inquiries would be conducted under the war crimes bill, which was approved in principle by the House of Commons on Monday night.

Bill approved

MOSCOW, March 21, (UPI): A legislative committee moved toward satisfying a US condition for improved trade relations and approved a bill lifting most travel and emigration restrictions for Soviet citizens.

The bill passed by the parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee would remove the requirement for exit visas, ending a sad chapter of Soviet history in which tens of thousands of "refuseniks" were denied permission to leave the country and sent to prison for even seeking it.

Columbus' letter

MADRID, March 21, (Reuter): A letter by Italian explorer Christopher Columbus announcing the discovery of America in 1492 is being translated into more than 150 languages, Spanish organisers of the 500th anniversary celebrations said yesterday.

Swede kids to be taxed

STOCKHOLM, March 21, (AP): In highly taxed Sweden, even children with more than \$160 in the bank must pay income tax starting next year, a government official said yesterday.

"You are a tax subject as soon as you are born," said senior treasury official Urban Eriksson. That will be reflected when a tax reform takes effect in 1991.

Fredriksson confirmed a report in the Svenska Dagbladet newspaper which said children with savings accounts will have to file tax returns on their interest.

So far, most children's accounts were sheltered under tax deduction, which are being eliminated under the reform.

The government has said the reform is designed to increase work incentive and big savings by reducing the top rates on the tax scale. Tax on the highest incomes is being reduced in stages from 80 per cent as of last year to 50 per cent next year.

Lithuania creates border guard force

Supreme Council protests Soviet manoeuvres

VILNIUS, USSR, March 21, (Agencies): The breakaway republic of Lithuania yesterday outlined plans for its own border guard, despite a Kremlin warning not to try to take over agencies run by Moscow.

Lithuanians have been registering during the past three days for what was referred to generally as "regional self-defence units."

Prime Minister Kazimieras Prunskiene said yesterday Lithuania hoped to have 37 border posts installed within 10 days in spots where

there are now traffic police on the Soviet boundaries and KGB troops on the frontier with Poland.

Hundreds were said to have signed up for the force, but Lithuania has not said how large the guard will be. A more detailed plan was to be announced by Monday.

Lithuanian officials said there were no plans to arm the border force.



Lithuanian volunteers in paramilitary gear erase the name Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic from a signpost in the village of Pagegai at the border with the Kaliningrad area, after Lithuania proclaimed its independence. (Reuter wirephoto)

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Prunskiene sent a telegram to Gorbatchev last night complaining that the recent military operations were creating unnecessary tensions.

"The people of Lithuania are deeply disturbed about the actions of the Soviet armed forces: the intense mobilisation of armoured vehicles and tanks, the intensified flights of military air force planes, and unauthorised sorties into Lithuanian territory by paratroopers involved in intelligence activities," she said in the cable.

Mrs Prunskiene said the Lithuanian Parliament had not been notified in advance of the manoeuvres, nor on the status of the Soviet army in Lithuania.

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Labour Party leader Shimon Peres (right) and Israeli President Chaim Herzog shake hands on Tuesday in the President's offices as he asks Peres to form Israel's next government. (Reuter wirephoto)

Peres finds it a difficult task

Shamir turns down coalition offer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 21. (Agencies): Labour Party leader Shimon Peres, chosen to form a new Israeli government, has pledged to press for peace with Palestinians but still faces a hard task to find coalition partners.

"I believe very deeply that this is a time for peace," Peres, 66, said after President Chaim Herzog chose him over Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to form the next government.

"Now we have... to form a new government out of a fragmented political net. The task is heavy and complicated," Peres said.

After three days of consultations with all parliamentary factions, Herzog gave Peres three weeks to form a coalition to replace Shamir.

Meanwhile, Peres invited Shamir today to join him in a new coalition—but Shamir predictably said no.

Peres called Shamir and invited him to join a broad government, and the prime minister told him: "We of the Likud have a decision not to join a government led by Peres," a spokeswoman for Shamir told Reuters.

"Peres asked him: 'Is that final?' and the prime minister said: 'Yes, that's the decision,'" he said.

The telephone call was widely seen as a tactical move by Peres, who has committed his party to forming the broadest possible government devoted to Middle East peace.

Political commentators said Labour and Likud could still end up in another partnership.

Shamir remains prime minister until a new government takes power.

Peres' party last week walked out of a coalition with Shamir's Likud Party and ousted the prime minister in a parliamentary no-confidence vote over US-proposed peace talks with Palestinians.

Peres' appointment was sure to please Washington and Palestinian nationalists waging a 27-month-old revolt against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"We shall reply affirmatively to the proposal and in the wake of this we hope to meet and arrange the talks in Cairo," Peres said after Herzog's announcement.

Shamir's hardline policies have angered US leaders while Peres has strongly endorsed US Secretary of State James Baker's peace proposals.

Keep off students' union, Ben Ali tells opposition

TUNIS, March 21. (Reuter): Tunisian President Zine Al-Abidine Ben Ali, against a background of campus unrest and labour grievances, told opposition parties yesterday to keep out of student movement and trade union politics.

"It is the duty of all political groups... not to carry the political struggle over into the university, which we consider far too sacred to be the arena for such a struggle," he said in a speech commemorating the 34th anniversary of independence.

The use of professional and trade union demands for political ends serves no one and has no justification in the age of multiparty pluralism. Trade union work has its rules and its context, just as the work of the parties does," he added.

Officials accused the unrecognised Islamist Nahdha (renaissance) Movement, probably the second political force in the country, of stirring up trouble on campuses in February.

The unrest has died down since the authorities rounded up several hundred activists and enrolled them in the armed forces.

The Tunisian General Union of Labour, the trade union umbrella organisation, is campaigning for salary increases but the only strikes so far have been among teachers and engineers.

"Our demands are trade union demands and have no political character. The purchasing power of people on salaries has fallen 40 per cent since 1985," said Mohamed Chaudouli, assistant secretary general of the union.

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Organ donations must be voluntary: poll

Control process, say prospective donors

THE issue of donating human organs after death is still being debated and in the meantime, there are hundreds of patients in the country who are in imperative need of donor organs to save their lives.

To highlight this issue, a local daily conducted an opinion poll with some people, the majority of whom supported the donation process. Most of those covered by the poll said that no special conditions should be imposed on the donation process, except the approval of the donor before death or the approval of his family after death.

Some called for organising an awareness campaign among the public, clarifying that members of the Organs Transplant

Society should visit people in their houses to encourage them to donate their organs after death.

Meanwhile people called for adopting a religious Fatwa in this connection, but warned against transferring this issue from a free donation process into a commercial commodity and stressed on the necessity of imposing control by the Ministry of Public Health on the donation process.

Hisham Mussed said that his approval to donate depends mainly on the attitude of the clerics adding that the approval of the dead's family is a must.

Mohammed Al Hussaini said that he agrees to donate his organs after death

describing this as a humanitarian act, but he said no condition should be imposed on the donation process.

Abdullah Al Qallaf said that he agrees to donate some specific organs such as the pancreas, kidneys and heart but he flatly refused to donate his eyes.

Salman Mohammed said that organ donation is a human issue and it needs a public awareness campaign. Headed that the Organs Transplant Society should play its role in this connection.

Atteya Al Misri, a lawyer, said that organ donation is a unique measure particularly after it has been approved by clerics. He called for the imposition of strict control on the Organs Transplant

Society by the Ministry of Public Health.

Khaled Al Zafiri said that he will donate some of his organs as there are a lot of patients who suffer kidney failure and the majority need organ donors.

Nabil Al Alawi from Bahrain Radio said that the information media could play a significant role in this respect. He added that the Islamic Fatwa in this connection must be published and commented that in Bahrain the Minister of Public Health, Dr. Jawad Al Orayed was a donor in Bahrain.

Nazeef Al Khaozary described the donation process as a good step forward and pointed out that Islam has sanctioned this issue. He called for intensifying relevant seminars.

Nurses may get a raise in salary

THE director of the Nursing Services Department at the Ministry of Public Health Mariam Al Raqam has said that the ministry is currently considering the feasibility of increasing the salaries of the nursing staff.

She told a local daily that the proposed increase would include allowances for nightshift, supervision and training, and that the proposed need was prompted by the increasing number of resigning nurses among Kuwaitis and residents alike.

She said that the department had submitted a memo to senior ministry officials seeking approval for a proposed work nature allowance for staff operating at the outpatient clinics.

Envoy received

KUWAIT, March 21, (Kuna): Kuwait City Governor Sheikh Jaber Al Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah received in his office this morning the Italian Ambassador to Kuwait Marco Colombo who called on the minister for familiarisation.



Czech film festival opens

These lovely Czech fashion models graced the opening of the Czech Film Festival which was inaugurated Tuesday night under the title, "Cinema of Youth and the Art of Animation." A large number of senior officials, diplomats and cinema fans turned up at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium to watch a short film "Cock-A-Doodle-Do" and a feature film "A House for Two," starring Ondrej Vetchy and Jiri Schmitz. The festival will continue until March 25. All films are subtitled in English and screenings start at 7.30 pm.

Underground sewage tunnels shortly

KUWAIT'S Minister of Public Works, Abdurahman Al Houti was quoted as saying that the ministry will construct main and sub tunnels at intervals of 36 km and at a depth of 25 metres.

In an interview with a local daily, the minister said that there are several projects still under study including pumping stations at Al Surra and Sabian areas, in addition to the purification station at Umm Al Haiman. Additionally, the ministry will undertake a rehabilitation project aimed at upgrading the Fifth Ring Road, particularly the area from West Al Ardiya to Mohammed Ben Al Qasem Street as also the construction of five pedestrian bridges. The official pointed out that the project is designed to alleviate traffic congestion, particularly during the morning rush hours.

He also said that the ministry will undertake projects related to roads and drainage at Al Surra, Al Farwaniya, Mishref and Al Ardiya, in addition to the construction of the road connecting Al Wafra-Al Zour and Al Wafra-Mina Abdullah and the improvement of Al Jahra and Al Abdali roads.

Speaking of the major projects to be studied during 1990, the official said that the ministry will implement the marine flyover connecting Kuwait City and Al Subbiya. He added that this project aims at bridging the distance between the capital and Al Subbiya, in addition to the provision of more safety

and will enhance the economic and social relations between the two areas.

Speaking on the status of the road between Al Sharq and Mirqab area, the minister said that the project was supposed to be accomplished in August 1988. However, by that date the contractor had completed only 50 per cent of the project and the project had been awarded to a new contractor who began work on 1.6.1989. The project is expected to be completed by mid-1991, the official said.

He said that the project's high cost, despite the economic slump is attributed to the economic inflation prevailing in the world and commented that prices of equipments and spare parts had increased substantially and these will eventually be reflected on the project costs.

The first stage of the televised survey of the first, second, third and fourth areas has been completed, the minister said and added that the survey at the fifth and sixth areas will be completed soon to be followed by remaining areas.

The official said that the ministry is currently seeking optimum methods to eradicate the bad odours emanating from the purification stations and is planning to use biological and chemical methods to surmount this problem. The treatment falls within the televised survey project, the official said.

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Black market in books: report

A BLACK market is in the offing in the country in the field of allied books related to the curriculum of the Ministry of Education, according to a local daily.

The daily added that as the Ministry of Information had banned these books, consequently their prices which were originally KD 1 had risen to KD 5.

To highlight this issue, the daily interviewed a number of students to enquire about the reasons for the need to purchase these books.

Mel Farid, a student in the secondary class said that she purchased all the allied books in physics, mathematics and chemistry and pointed out that most of the questions referred to in examinations were derived from these references. She added that these books include the questions and answers and with the usage of these books she does not need any additional help.

Abdul Aziz Al Otaibi a student in the secondary stage described these books as very important, particularly those relating to physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics. Otaibi who is studying in Saudi Arabia said that these books were within the reach of any student and each book cost only five Saudi riyals which is equivalent to about 400 fils.

Another student identified as Mai Jalal said that her father had purchased the English language book at KD3.500 and KD 4 the science book.

Murad Omer, a student in the higher secondary stage said that he was not interested in these type of books as the ministry's curriculums were sufficient and commented that the students who would like to upgrade their levels were resorting to these books.

The London Shakespeare Group pictured with the representatives of the Arab Food Services Co. one of their sponsors.

ISP students lash out at victimisation

Future of 1,400 at stake

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

A GROUP of International School of Pakistan (ISP) students have expressed fear about the outcome of their results in the SSC exams and have alleged they have been victimised because of a dispute between the ISP management and the Embassy of Pakistan in Kuwait.

As the Pakistan embassy withdrew their support for ISP, the embassy did not recommend the school for affiliation to Pakistan's Federal Board, resulting in a withdrawal of recognition, which is now being contested in a court in Pakistan. Consequently, students sitting for exams this year had to appear as private candidates although they had attended school. Some of them alleged they had to make do with inadequate chemicals and lab equipment. Some claimed that they were not tested properly and were asked a maximum of two questions each when the rules say they should be asked at least five questions. Students also claimed that their science reports, which they had taken, were not judged.

"We want someone to tell us what our fault is: we worked hard for the last two years and now, appearing as private candidates. Why?" asked a group of 20 students. A total of 42 students took the exams this year.

"We don't know what is happening and what the trouble is (between ISP management and the embassy). We only know that as private students our future is at stake," they told Arab Times.

"We appeal to our country's official representatives in Kuwait not to spoil our careers by withholding recommendation

for the school. We deserve at least that," they said.

"Can you imagine our plight?" they asked. "If we don't appear as regular students, we will face tremendous difficulties in getting admission in good colleges in Pakistan," they said.

Careers

Even if an external student gets 80 per cent marks, preference is given to 'regular' students by Pakistani faculties for medicine and other career-oriented studies, they claimed.

They also expressed fear about the outcome of their results, particularly because the practicals were shifted at the last minute to the Shaab School. They said they were not happy with the examinations and the way the tests were conducted. Some students alleged they had to make do with inadequate chemicals and lab equipment.

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"We appeal to our country's official representatives in Kuwait not to spoil our careers by withholding recommendation

A group of parents protested what they called the "excessive treatment toward our children."

"We are disturbed about the current state of affairs, our children's future is at stake," they said.

Parents spoke out against the uncalled for, petty attitude of certain diplomats.

"If the Kuwaiti authorities decide that the ISP should close due to its wrangle and power struggle, then where will the 1,400 children go?" they ask.

Petty attitude

They said they can't understand the "animosity against children" and appealed to the benevolence of the ambassador of Pakistan urging him to "support the welfare of the students."

"If our ambassador takes care of our welfare, and changes our status to regular students, we'll support him all the way," said students.

In the interests of education parents and students said, the embassy must encourage healthy competition among schools applying the Pakistani curriculum.

"Healthy competition will improve the standard of education, the present attitude is harming our children. And no parent wants that," they said.

Some parents said they would take up the ISP matter with the higher authorities in Pakistan and if need be would appeal to their country's prime minister to intervene to set the matter right.

Macbeth comes alive tonight

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

IT wasn't the best thing being British and in Iraq earlier this week but art knows no boundaries and Baghdad after all the live TV broadcast gave them an idea of what was happening outside.

The sources, who asked not to be identified further, noted that an initial agreement on the border was reached by the two leaders when King Fahd was in Oman in December for the annual summit meeting of GCC leaders that was hosted by Qaboos.

Ali Khammas, also a student said that he had seen all these books and found them to be full of mistakes. Students using these will have a poor level of education, he said.

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Dubai and Sharjah

In Baghdad they played to a full house, mostly Iraqis, at the National Theatre that seats one thousand, two nights in a row. But their other performances at Baghdad's Rashid Theatre and in Basra and Mosul were cancelled and they kept busy giving workshops at Baghdad University and visiting the archaeological sites.

The eight actors and actresses will appear in some 20 roles in Macbeth, a story about murderous ambition but also a poetic tragedy.

The London Shakespeare Group will perform tonight at 8 pm and on Friday at 6 pm at the Kuwait English School in Salwa.

Qaboos-Fahd talks resume

RIYADH, March 21, (UPI): Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed of Oman arrived in Haifa Al Batin, a Saudi Arabian military complex about 270 miles (400 km) east of Riyadh on the east Saudi coast, for talks with Saudi King Fahd, Radio Riyadh reported.

The state-owned radio said talks between the two Arab monarchs were expected to centre on the latest Arab developments, as well as the situation in the Gulf region in light of the continuing, no-peace, no-war situation prevailing between Iran and Iraq. Both countries signed a UN-brokered ceasefire in their 8-

year-long war in Aug 1988, but have made no progress toward peace so far.

Gulf-based Arab diplomatic sources said Qaboos was also expected to discuss with Fahd the question of improving ties between Iran and Gulf Arab states. Arab-Oman maintained traditionally good ties with Tehran, even at the height of the Gulf War, and has mediated between Tehran and Riyadh in the past.

Saudi Arabia snapped diplomatic ties with Iran two years ago, accusing Tehran of

interfering in its internal affairs.

The Oman and Saudi leaders were expected to finalise a treaty demarcating their common borders during the visit of the Sultan, diplomatic sources later said.

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"Despite the existence of feuds over certain political and organisational issues, the situation can be corrected by sticking to democracy," he said, without giving details.

Earlier reports said a rift had developed between Abd-Rabbo and the front's Secretary-General Nayeef Hawatmeh over flexible positions Abd-Rabbo had taken on the peace process.

Meanwhile, the main PLO group, Fatah has asked the Soviet Union to stop all Jewish emigration to Israel.

In a statement on Tuesday, Fatah said: "The revolutionary council (of Fatah) calls on the Soviet Union, in view of the friendship and relations between us, to halt completely the campaign of forced emigration to Palestine."

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials argue that Zionist organisations are encouraging the Soviet Jews and called for an urgent Arab summit to discuss the threat.

KUWAIT, March 21, (AP): Differences have erupted inside two key commando groups of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, including Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah, Kuwaiti newspapers reported today.

The row inside Fatah broke out over the election of the PLO representative to Bonn,

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Rothschild dies at 79

LONDON, March 21, (AP): Lord Victor Rothschild, the millionaire banker and former British intelligence agent, has died suddenly in London, his wife said in a statement today. He was 79.

Lady Rothschild said her husband died Tuesday. She did not reveal the cause of death or any other details. Rothschild's secretary refused to say whether he had been ill or whether he died at home.

Nathaniel Mayer, Victor Rothschild was born Oct. 31, 1910, into the 200-year-old family descended from Jewish-German coin collectors who founded a banking dynasty.

He succeeded his uncle as the 4th baron Rothschild in 1937. He took his seat in the House of Lords, the unelected upper chamber of parliament, as a member of the Labour Party.

In 1986, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher responded to Rothschild's call to clear his name following accusations he was a Soviet spy.

Thatcher said there was no evidence he was the so-called fifth man in the infamous spy ring of Guy Burgess, Kim Philby, Donald Maclean and Anthony Blunt.

Rothschild had been a senior officer in MI5, Britain's domestic intelligence service. He was friendly in his university days Cambridge with some students who later betrayed Britain, including Blunt.

An orthodox Jew, he was awarded an honorary degree from Tel Aviv University for "the advancement of science, education and the economy of Israel" in 1971. It was followed in 1975 by an honorary degree from Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

Economic growth likely to slow down

Budget aims to contain inflation

NEW DELHI, March 21, (Reuters): Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's first budget may slow economic growth but is expected to halt growing inflation, a senior finance ministry official said today.

Monday's budget for the year beginning April 1 reduced capital expenditure, imposed heavy taxes and introduced social schemes such as debt relief for farmers.

"The overall impact from the inflationary point of view would be positive. There is a link between inflation and deficit," said Finance Secretary Bimal Jalan, the ministry's top civil servant.

"A very strong effort has been made to contain the deficit."

"The budget strategy is to keep inflation rate under check," Jalan told reporters, a comment with inflation figures to be released later this week. "The budget would be inflationary."

The budget showed a deficit of 72.06 billion rupees (\$4.37 billion), a figure substantially lower than the 1989/90 estimate of 117.50 billion rupees (\$7.12 billion).

The lower deficit signifies the government's resolve to cut down on expenditure and minimise the effect of the budget's higher taxes on inflation, Jalan said.

Inflation rose to 7.7 per cent in 1989/90 from 5.3

Demand for oil will increase in E. Europe Promising market for Opec crude

VIENNA, Austria, March 21. (AP): As Eastern Europe loosens economic ties to the Soviet Union, it will offer the Opec nations a promising market for their crude oil, analysts say.

Kuwait and other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries already are eyeing the newly independent Eastern European nations as potential customers for their products.

"They are certainly starting to become interested," said Joseph Stanislaw, managing director of Cambridge Energy Research Associates in Paris.

"It is a natural market for Opec to go into," he said. Peter Gignoux, director of the International Energy Department at Shearson Lehman Hutton in London, said: "Opec is going to be in there marketing the same as everybody else."

The Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer, has long been the dominant supplier of crude to its East Bloc allies.

But analysts expect its tight grip on the market will ease with the expiration next year of its multi-year oil contracts with many of those nations.

In negotiating new accords,



requirement would prompt the countries to "look for convenience — which side can supply them at the best price and quality."

"I look upon Eastern Europe as a big potential (market) for Opec," said Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi. "They are going to depend less and less on the Soviet Union."

Many predict demand for oil will increase in those countries as they convert from the centrally planned economies of their former communist rulers to the free-market models practiced in the West.

Kuwait, which has a reputation for aggressively pursuing overseas investments, also has shown considerable interest in Eastern Europe.

Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa, who recently visited Hungary, has said his country was closely watching changes in the region.

He told the Middle East Economic Survey that the state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corp. would likely set up small offices in each of the capitals to monitor developments.

UAE firm wins oil concession in Aden

ABU DHABI, March 21, (AP): An oil drilling company from the United Arab Emirates has obtained the rights to explore for oil in South Yemen, the company's general manager said today.

Abu Dhabi-based Bin Ham for oil drilling acquired the rights to explore for oil in the North Sanau Block, a 14,000 square kilometer (5,600 square mile) area in South Yemen, Mohamed Bin Salem said.

"A memorandum of understanding for the concession was signed last week between Bin Ham and South Yemen's Ministry of Energy and Minerals," Bin Salem said.

The UAE company has two other partners in the joint venture — Tullow Oil of Ireland and Complex (Yemen) Ltd., a subsidiary of Bin Ham Oil group, he said.

Drilling is expected to start following a seismic survey of the area which will be undertaken after the Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends in late April, Salem said.

Bin Salem voiced optimism over oil prospects in the concession area, located in the southern part of the Arabian basin bordering Saudi Arabia and Oman.

South Yemen only recently

became an oil producer. The Marxist-ruled country struck oil with the help of Russian experts

that will allow it soon to produce at an initial rate of 30,000 barrels per day.

One of the promising areas in the country is that straddling the border with North Yemen. The two countries are jointly exploiting the area and have granted a consortium of Russian, American, French and Kuwaiti firms the right to prospect there.

Individual oil concessions in South Yemen include one by France's Total-Compagnie Francaise des Petroles and a joint venture between Occidental of Canada and the Lebanese-owned Consolidated Contractors Co.

Razaz elected chief of AMF

ABU DHABI, March 21, (Opec): Dr Mohammed Al Razaz of Egypt was elected chairman of the board of governors of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) on Thursday, according to sources here.

In a statement following his appointment, Al Razaz commended the work of his predecessor Mohamed Al Zarouq of Libya in carrying out the fund's operations "smoothly and effectively."

He told the 14th session of the AMF board that they were facing a number of "domestic and external challenges" which called for intensifying joint Arab action to boost economic and development potential.

Some Arab economies, he pointed out, were facing difficulties from productivity, balance of payments, foreign debt and reduced trade levels.

At an international level, he asserted, Arab countries were up against "giant economic blocs" coupled with unstable financial and monetary markets.

The success of the First Arab International Conference

which was held in Tunis in 1985, was one of the main

reasons which encouraged Mr Abu Ghazaleh to organise this conference.

This conference is being attended by more than 600

delegates representing all countries.

The meetings are scheduled to continue today and will

cover various topics of accounting and development

presented by leaders of the profession in both the Arab

world and internationally.

The governors decided to hold

their next meeting in the second half

of April 1991 in Tunisia.

Accounting conference opened

THE Jordanian Regent H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Jordan, Hassan Bin Talal inaugurated on Tuesday the International Auditing Practices Committee (IAPC), president of Jordanian Association of Certified Public Accountants (JACPA), all of whom pointed out to the importance of accounting in development.

This important scientific and professional conference is held concurrently with the thirty-sixth meeting of the IAPC and meeting of the IASC.

This is the first meeting held in an Arab country by these two international committees.

The Second Arab International Accounting Conference is organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) and ASCA in co-operation with the Department of the Auditor-General in Jordan, the Profession's Council in Jordan and the JACPA.

The chairman of the conference, president of ASCA, Talal Abu Ghazaleh delivered a speech in which he thanked the Crown Prince and congratulated him on the occasion of his birthday which coincided with the opening date of conference.

In the opening ceremony speeches were delivered by the representatives of the League of Arab States, the auditor-general of Jordan, president of International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), chairman of International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC), chairman of

International Auditing Practices Committee (IAPC), president of Jordanian Association of Certified Public Accountants (JACPA), all of whom pointed out to the importance of accounting in development.

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No solution for high inflation

Budget sends pound, shares falling

LONDON, March 21, (Reuters):

Britain's financial markets reacted gloomily today to a new budget that offered no instant solution for high inflation or Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's popularity problems.

Minutes after foreign exchange dealing opened in London, the pound sterling fell to \$1.59 from its closing price on Tuesday of \$1.61.

The FTSE index of 100 leading shares on the London market quickly dropped by 2.5 points although it recovered half its early losses by midday.

Financial analysts said the measures announced on Tuesday by Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major may not have been tough enough to bring inflation under control.

"The micro-economic reforms on the savings side may have long-term benefits but the budget was a bit lacking in macro-economic measures," one

analyst said.

Asked about the slide in the markets, a Thatcher aide said: "They'll come right."

In his first budget speech to parliament, Major pledged to wage a tough battle against 7.7 per cent annual inflation by maintaining high bank base interest rates, now at 15 per cent, which have sent mortgage bills soaring for many homeowners.

"I know it is frustrating for the people who find it difficult to manage at the moment with high interest rates, but the policy is beginning to squeeze inflation out of the system," he said in a television interview today.

Major attempted to sweeten the pill by offering Britons tax-exempt saving accounts which the government hopes will draw cash out of the marketplace.

But Major did little to take the bite out of an unpopular "poll tax" which replaces property rates with a levy on all adults. The new

tax, championed by Thatcher, has sparked violent protests across Britain.

predict just how high inflation would go or when interest rates would start to fall.

"There is only way to bring inflation down and that is exactly what we are doing — to create a pincer movement between a strong fiscal position and a strong monetary position to squeeze inflation out," he said.

John Smith, Labour's main spokesman on the economy, said: "We are going to have a year of mortgage misery, high interest rates and inflation going up."

Several newspapers attacked the budget as timid and predicted it would probably do little to improve the Conservative government's chances at the next general election which must be called by mid-1992.

"The principal criticism of Mr Major's first budget is that it does not inflict enough ... pain," the *Independent* said in an editorial.

Growth rate of industrial production declines

China announces austere budget

BEIJING, March 21, (UPI):

China announced today a "grim" national budget for 1990, acknowledging the country is near recession and running growing deficits but still giving the largest boost in spending to the military.

The budget message and an overall economic report were read to China's nominal legislature on the second day of its annual session and confirmed that a government austerity programme since late 1988 has pushed China to the brink of bankruptcy.

The condition of the state budget for this year is grim, Finance Minister Wang Binqiang warned in his annual budget address to the National People's Congress, the rubber-stamp parliament.

Wang said the 1990 national budget forecasts a 10.3 per cent hike in spending to \$70.7 billion on revenues of \$68.9 billion, up 10.9 per cent. The budget deficit is estimated at \$1.9 billion.

The biggest increase goes to

defence, a 15.2 per cent hike to around \$6.1 billion. The increase will only keep pace with or slightly top inflation, but is the first substantial hike in the military budget in five years.

Western diplomats said the government was repaying the military for its role in last year's crackdown on the pro-democracy movement and acknowledging its greater influence since.

The move is also designed to quiet rumblings of discontent in the ranks over the political turmoil last year and over spending that fell nearly 40 per cent in real terms in the last four years.

"The growth rate of industrial production has declined too

sharply," Zou said. "The number of unemployed people in towns and cities has increased, and some urban residents have begun to experience financial difficulties."

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"The growth rate of industrial production has declined too

Wang attributed the deficit to losses from the political turmoil last year, to postponements or cancellations of unpopular new revenue measures and to unexpected expenses. But he also acknowledged huge subsidies for factories and city residents.

"This is the first time in years they've come near to keeping up with inflation," said a Western military attaché.

Inflation ran officially at 17.8 per cent last year, and officials say it stabilised in recent months at around seven per cent. The State Statistics Bureau, in a new report today, said inflation dipped in the first two months of this year to 3.3 per cent.

Other budget increases in 1990 are for agriculture, up eight per cent, and education, up 10

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A MAN'S true wealth is the good he does in this world
— Prophet Mohammed, (PBUH) (570-632).

Perestroika heralds woes

Youths want to earn living

By Clare Pedrick

BUDAPEST, Hungary, (WNL): In any Western European country it would hardly have made the newspapers — a group of young people, jobless and homeless, staging a demonstration to call for the right to earn a living and have a roof over their head.

In Hungary the event caused a national outcry. When the protest was shown on the state-run television later that evening it marked the first public admission of what thousands of young Hungarians already know from bitter experience: that "perestroika" has brought with it unemployment, soaring inflation and the prospect of having to sleep on a park bench.

"Those television scenes made a tremendous impact," said schoolteacher Klara Heltay. "Seeing young people asking for a place to sleep was something that would never have happened in the old days. It brought home to everyone that we are experiencing poverty for the first time here in Hungary, and it's the young who are suffering the most. It's true, before we couldn't travel to the West as often as we wanted, but at least everyone had somewhere to sleep, enough to eat and some kind of job, even if it was one invented by the state."

Dismantling

The price of dismantling the obsolete communist infrastructure and moving to a free-market system from an economy artificially propped up by state subsidies is proving to be a high one for Hungary. Teetering on the edge of bankruptcy, and with the prospect of having to pay \$1.5 billion in 1990 to service its foreign debt of \$20 billion, the government has introduced the harshest austerity package ever. The plan includes the closure of 50 loss-making companies and a 20 per cent cut in state subsidies. Hungary would also reduce its exports to East bloc trading partners by 20 per cent to aim instead at Western markets that could bring much-needed hard currency.

Inflation is currently running at an official 17 per cent and is predicted to reach 20 per cent next year. Most economists agree the real figure is more likely to be about 30 per cent. The government has begun taxing everything in sight, from second-hand cars to imported bananas. Last year, Hungarians had their first taste of income tax, with an upper limit of 35 per cent, one of the highest in Europe.

Meanwhile, unemployment could soar to 100,000 representing 5 per cent of the workforce. Most of the victims are expected to be students entering the job market. "Of course it's a drop in the ocean by Western standards, but it's a terrible shock for our young people," Heltay commented. "Unemployment is something they have never had to deal with."

Middle course

The Mercedes-buying minority is certainly well catered to in Hungary. Of all the East bloc satellite nations, this is the only one that has managed to steer a middle course between communism and consumerism. And Budapest's fashionable Vaci Street has long boasted a McDonald's fast food restaurant as well as Adidas sports shop selling the latest in jogging and skiing equipment. A few doors down a Benetton store displays sweaters for \$60 each.

Hungarians can now watch television from Britain, France, Austria, West Germany and, in some cases, the US. Budapest's cinemas are showing "Indiana Jones" and "The Temple of Doom" while promising that "Batman" will be coming shortly. The reforms have meant other big changes, especially for the young. Military service has been cut from 18 months to one year and the number of draftees was reduced by 15 per cent.

The new generation will be the first to have the luxury of a free vote. The Hungarian Socialist Party — which shed its old communist label in the fall — has pledged to hold multi-party elections in the spring. "Even among the new opposition groups (47 of them registered for the upcoming elections) there is very little active participation from the young," said Ivan Bajomi, who teaches at Budapest's Elite University. "Here the young people are not at all like those in East Germany or Czechoslovakia, perhaps because there was less repression in Hungary. Life here was easier, at least it seemed so. There was more chance to travel and the standard of living was higher than in other East bloc countries."

Added Klara Heltay: "Under the old regime Hungarians were assured a reasonably comfortable life on the condition that they kept out of politics, and it's something that has stayed with them. Today's generation is much more interested about the prospect of listening to more Western music, or getting the pop video channel from Britain than it is about having the chance of voting."

Drug abuse

One new social phenomenon is drug abuse, a problem which will likely increase experts say. Official estimates put the number of drug users at about 50,000. Teenagers rely mainly on glue, solvents and cough medicines while the older age bracket uses heroin, cocaine and marijuana. According to Dr Eva Istvan, who treats young addicts at Budapest's Del-Pesti Hospital, using drugs is a symptom of Hungary's economic ills, aggravated by the dramatic changes in lifestyle and resulting feelings of insecurity. "Today's young people are travelling abroad, reading foreign newspapers and watching Western TV channels and they are seeing all sorts of possibilities that they can never achieve," she said. "The youngsters I treat have lost all their values. Everything they grew up with has changed and they are extremely confused."

At present facilities are badly lacking to cope with the new problem. The Catholic church runs the country's only two rehabilitation centres — strict institutions where patients are made to work a 12-hour day and are refused visits from the outside.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1312 — The Pope abolishes the Order of the Templars.
- 1622 — About 35 Virginians are killed in first Indian massacre of European colonists in North America.
- 1765 — England's Parliament passes Stamp Act to raise revenue in American colonies.
- 1794 — US Congress passes law prohibiting American ships from supplying slaves to other countries.
- 1917 — United States becomes first nation to recognise new provisional government in Russia.
- 1945 — Arab League is founded in Cairo, Egypt.
- 1946 — Britain recognises independence of Transjordan.
- 1962 — Right wing French terrorists attack government forces in Algiers.
- 1963 — United States attempts to mediate political dispute that threatens civil war in South Vietnam.
- 1964 — Anti-Muslim violence breaks out in India.
- 1972 — More than 70 people in Belfast, Northern Ireland, are injured when bomb explodes in parking lot between city's largest hotel and a railway station.
- 1986 — South Africa's Supreme Court issues government stinging rebuff by invalidating severe restrictions imposed on black activists.
- 1987 — Chadian soldiers seize major Libyan ground and air base at Oued Doum in northern Chad after heavy fighting.
- 1988 — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze retreats from pledge to withdraw Soviet troops from Afghanistan.
- 1989 — Delegates from 105 countries, meeting in Switzerland, adopt draft UN treaty to control international transport of dangerous wastes.

Could leave a scar on them

Children active in uprising

By Philippa Neave

GAZA Strip, occupied territories, (WNL) — An area 45 km long and 10 km across at its widest, completely surrounded by barbed wire is home to about 600,000 Palestinians living mostly in refugee camps: this is the Gaza Strip. With a population density of about 2,100 inhabitants per square kilometre, it is one of the most heavily populated areas of the world. It is also one of the poorest.

The Palestinians live in cramped shacks made of concrete blocks or corrugated iron, and they are not allowed to expand their shelters. The birth rate is so high that children seem to make a majority among refugees. In this hell-hole they grow up in an atmosphere of uncommon deprivation and violence.

As always, children are the first victims of war. Only this time, they are active participants, too. "One 5-year-old was beaten by the soldiers yesterday. I asked him why. He said it was because he had spat at them. I asked him why he had done that. He replied that he spat at the soldiers because the day before, Israeli troops had broken into his house, dragged his father and uncle out onto the street, beaten them and taken away their identity cards. A Palestinian without an ID cannot move from his house." This is just one example among many of what Mary Khass sees everyday; an educator, she runs 15 kindergartens in the eight refugee camps of the Gaza Strip.

Violence

In the endless spiral of violence and oppression that has now entered its third year, children are taking the lead more and more and giving momentum to the uprising (intifada). While adults often opt for non-violent forms of resistance — observing strikes, boycotting Israeli products and jobs and refusing to pay taxes — the children are on the front line, armed with stones.

Every day, when the streets of the camps and villages are not deserted because of round-the-clock curfews, confrontations explode between children and the troops. "It has become almost a reflex action. When they see a military jeep, the children throw stones," said 62-year-old Khass. The military retaliates by firing tear gas, live ammunition or the so-called "rubber bullets" (a steel bullet with a plastic coating of barely one millimetre, which has proven lethal). Also, a dozen children were killed by what is known as "marbles" — a round plastic-coated steel bullet fired from a canister that shoots 18 at once. According to statistics, since the beginning of the intifada in December 1987, 193 children under 16 years of age have died, and about 27,000 have been injured. Close to 10,000 youths under 18 years of age are being held in Israeli prisons.

Great concern to parents and educators is the psychological impact of daily violence on the children. Says Khass: "You should see their drawings. They invariably draw pictures of houses being blown up, soldiers shooting, people dying, blood, they draw the things they see everyday." Even when they play it's still war games. They make guns out of wood and cardboard and play at building a barricade and setting fire to tyres while soldiers shoot at them. "They also play at funerals, acting out the funeral of a martyr and chanting the slogans they are used to hearing," Khass says.

Opposition

Since 1967 when Israel took control of the West Bank and Gaza, the generation of Palestinians now in their early 20s has known only the occupation. The situation is even worse for young children raised as violence escalated and poverty increased. Accor-



A Palestinian child in a classroom in the occupied territories. (WNL)

ding to recent psychological research conducted by the Union of Palestinian Women, the intifada is deeply affecting children between 3 and 9 who number 400,000 and make up about 30 per cent of the Palestinian population of the occupied territories.

"Today almost every child is exposed to events which affect his or her psychological state, replacing feelings of security and stability with fear, distress and insecurity," the study says. Children suffering most are those living in refugee camps where conditions are harsher. They display greater signs of distress, anxiety and nervousness. The study also shows that in the Gaza Strip, the "hotbed" of the intifada, children appear more self-assured.

Says Samih Khalil, the director of "In'ash Al

Usrah," the largest women's association on the West Bank which runs kindergartens as part of many other activities: "Psychologically, the children in the camps are stronger. Every day they defy the army with its jeeps and machine-guns. They know they are the heroes of the intifada and they are proud of it. We know it is our children who are representing the Palestinian people and we are proud of them."

Naturally, educators find that controlling children used to standing up to armed soldiers is difficult, if not impossible. Speaking of children in Gaza, Khass explains: "Children under 6 in our kindergartens are aggressive, restless, confused, hyperactive and almost impossible to discipline." Increasing numbers are traumatised and withdraw completely after seeing a parent killed or beaten, or losing a sibling, Khass adds. They refuse to speak or eat, they wake up screaming in the middle of the night or wet their bed.

These children need proper psychiatric treatment and there are no such facilities," Khass says. "I am trying to raise funds for a project to bring a

professional who has lived and worked in a crisis area to train at least 10 psychology graduates to treat these kids."

The feeling of security all children need to grow up as well-balanced adults does not exist here. "Experience life in a camp for just one night and you'll realise that kids can't even get away from it in their sleep. They are woken up by screaming, banging, ugly noises when houses are raided. It happens all the time. The soldiers run along the roofs and burst into homes in the middle of the night."

Treatment

A doctor who works at a clinic run by the United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA) in Arabs camp in the Gaza Strip commented: "Before the intifada, my work was just routine, treating kids with infections and the like, but now cases of psychiatric and neurological diseases are increasing, as are cases of stress-induced diabetes. Another thing that we have more and more kids suffering from chronic difficulties in breathing because of excessive exposure to tear gas."

Not even schools can offer a semblance of normality to Palestinian youths. All facilities, from kindergartens right through universities have been subject to closure by the Israeli authorities, in particular on the West Bank where over 300,000 children have lost two whole school years and are now embarking on their third year of forced holidays.

In Gaza where schools have been operating, albeit in a sporadic fashion, teachers struggle to offer continuity in the programmes and deal with an overloaded system. Of the 148 schools, which UNRWA in Gaza, most run two or even three shifts of classes a day. Said an English teacher in Raffah camp: "With classes of 45 to 47 pupils, we have a lot of trouble getting children to settle down and concentrate."

Letters to the editor

A real headache

SIR: It is regrettable that the Embassy of Pakistan in Kuwait should have issued a press release criticising the statements made by Dr Najma Heptulla, deputy chairman of the Rajya Sabha, during her recent visit to Kuwait. Dr Heptulla visited Kuwait as a special envoy of the prime minister of India.

The Kashmir issue has a long history, as it began over 40 years ago. Shortly after Indian independence, the princely states in the country (including Jammu and Kashmir) signed Instruments of Accession to the Indian Union. The legality of the accession by Jammu and Kashmir to India has never been challenged. India took this question to the UN in 1948 in order to have Pakistan vacate its aggression. The resolutions adopted by the UN were conditional upon Pakistan fulfilling certain obligations. The first and only resolution accepted by India is the UNCP Resolution of Aug 13, 1948. Part II A of the resolution refers to Pakistan's agreement to withdraw its troops from Jammu and Kashmir. Part III of the resolution lays down the modalities for the total withdrawal of Pakistani forces from Jammu and Kashmir. A subsequent resolution adopted on Jan 5, 1949 called on a plebiscite subject to the completion of the ceasefire and truce arrangements of Part I and II of the Aug 13, 1948 resolution. Since Pakistan did not fulfil its obligations, the question of plebiscite did not arise. The UN Resolutions are obviously not of relevance any longer as over 40 years have elapsed and the entire political scenario in the Indian subcontinent has changed.

Meanwhile, the people of Jammu and Kashmir like people in the rest of India have been exercising their voting rights and electing their leaders to not only the state legislature, but also to the Union Parliament of India. The fact that members from Jammu and Kashmir are in the Parliament shows that the people of Jammu and Kashmir regard themselves as Indians. For, otherwise, why should they send their representatives to the central legislature?

The Simla Agreement of 1972 superseded all the UN resolutions. This agreement, inter alia, stated that neither India nor Pakistan would seek to alter the Line of Control (in Kashmir) of Dec 17, 1971 unilaterally, irrespective of mutual differences and the legal interpretations. The various issues between India and Pakistan including the final settlement of Jammu and Kashmir were to be discussed by their respective heads of government. The Line of Control of 1972 is quite different from the one arrived at in 1949 after the ceasefire.

The Simla Agreement also stipulates that neither country will interfere in each other's internal affairs, and will not indulge in hostile propaganda against all disputes are to be resolved bilaterally and peacefully.

India is anxious to improve its relations with all its neighbours and has extended a hand of friendship to Pakistan. India is willing to discuss all issues with Pakistan. Your readers should know that India has a Muslim population of approximately 120 million who enjoy equal rights and are to be found in all regions of the country. The Muslims in Kashmir are only about 4 million in number. In fact, there are more Muslims in India than the entire population of Pakistan. The Muslim community has been making significant contributions to the socio-economic and cultural life of India. Many eminent persons from this community have occupied positions of great importance, including that of president of India, vice-president of India, chief justice of India, Union ministers holding very important portfolios such as foreign affairs, home affairs, agriculture, education etc., governor of states, chief ministers of states, senior positions in the armed forces including chief of air staff, generals etc., ambassadors

and members of national and state legislatures etc.

The contention of the Pakistan embassy is that a dispute exists over Jammu and Kashmir. This is true. The dispute that needs resolution is the withdrawal of Pakistani troops from the territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The Simla Agreement provides a framework for resolving this matter.

The press release issued by the Embassy of Pakistan quotes some Indian print media. These quotations are selectively taken out of context. It is recognised worldwide that India has a very free press and newspapers are free to be critical of the government, as is usual in democracies.

Abdul Khalique,

First Secretary (Information),

Embassy of the Republic of India.

At another level, the human-management approach model emphasises the construction of a socio-economic political, psycho-cultural, societal infrastructure based purely on the public welfare premises. A greater effort will have to be exerted in the field of education, particularly in applied education. Hospitals, housing, schools, communications, community centres, and recreational, cultural and sports activities will have to be expanded. The achievement of full-employment by national planning will have to be initiated. The national government will have to combat inflation. Improvement in public health and nutrition will have to occur. A parallel model of centralised planning and decentralised structures will have to be formed.

Since independence, Pakistan has largely espoused the legalistic-administrative approach in its various political eras. The accepted notions within the governing elite have been that stability is the priority goal, maintenance of rules (outdated laws and administrative set-up) is the second priority objective, and the preservation of a large and powerful government at the helm of national affairs is fundamental. Public participation and government accountability has not been on the priority agenda. Added to this legalistic-administrative approach is a basic erroneous conceptual premise: it has been maintained in Pakistan that the reform of individuals, coming from within by Islamic teachings, will eventually reform the whole of the society from all its ailments and drawbacks.

The contemporary management approach of modern progressive political systems does not subscribe to the above-mentioned conceptual thesis. It maintains that societal problems are not caused by the intrinsically unformed and corrupt masses; instead, the masses are the victims of the political, legal and economic institutions of a political system that has inflicted all sorts of deprivations on people and has gone on unformed for a considerably long period of time. Reforms of a society must begin with the reforms of the institutional super-structure of the political process rather than the other way around.

Meanwhile, the opposition coalition,

Demos, smells victory — between 55 and 65 per cent of the vote, according to its leader Franci

šek, who was in prison seven years for criticizing the communists before leaving for West Germany. He returned to Slovenia last fall.

It is in this light that the Slovenes' defiance

of the central authorities in Belgrade, the

Yugoslav capital, should be seen. By demanding reforms at an early stage, Ribicic hopes the party can attain the voters' credibility. Still, few

think it will get more than 25 per cent of the vote.

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Gen. Avril left Port-au-Prince at 6 am with four other

passengers on a US military flight C-141. They were

Homestead Air Force Base (in Florida) at 11 am. US

State Department spokesman confirming the French

leader Avril is in the US.

"We don't think there will be any problems before and

during the match. But it will be important at the end, when

spirits could be high, to avoid as far as

possible contacts between the opposing

fans. — A Dutch Soccer Federation

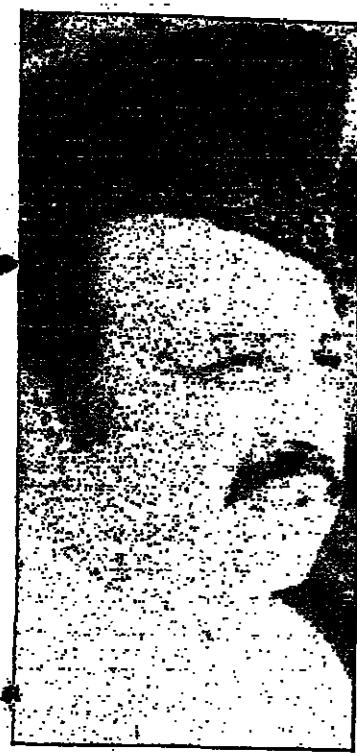
official on probability of segregating Dutch

and English fans during the World Cup in

PAKISTAN DAY

GOLDEN JUBILEE

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT



Ambassador Zahid Said

On the right track

ON this day, the fiftieth anniversary of the Pakistan Resolution, let us, as Pakistanis, resolve to uphold and nurture, individually and collectively the values that are the *raison d'être* for the creation of Pakistan.

There is no denying the fact that at every critical juncture in our history the strong will of our people and their attachment to lofty ideals carried them through difficult times. The same perseverance and fortitude will be required to consolidate the nation and make Pakistan a prosperous state in the future.

Pakistan achieved freedom only after a long and difficult struggle through countless sacrifices. I would, therefore, like to remind the younger generation that now it is their duty to achieve the ideals and dreams envisioned during the freedom struggle. Rarely has such an onerous responsibility devolved on one section of the society as now rests on the shoulders of the educated youth of our country.

Quaid-e-Azam envisaged unfettered democracy for the country, based on the principles of Islamic social justice and it is a matter of great pride for us that Pakistan has adopted a democratic order, under the able guidance of our present leaders.

I strongly believe that the present government has set the right priorities for the development of Pakistan. There is special emphasis in advancing education and improving social services. These measures are likely to have long-term benefits for our society. There is also an extensive peoples' work programme which on implementation will contribute to the welfare of the masses. As the government has set the correct priorities for the nation, it deserves their valuable support.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, for the hospitality extended to our citizens, residing in Kuwait, and also thank them for their kind messages of felicitation to our government on this auspicious occasion.

Message of Pakistan Ambassador, Zahid Said



"A nation would not be found wanting either in will or in ability to preserve and develop what the country's founding fathers have bequeathed to us and leave it in a better, healthier and happier shape for generations to come."

Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan

'Let us rededicate to ideals of democracy'

Message of the prime minister of Pakistan

The following is the Pakistan Day message from the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto:

"ON this day 50 years ago the Muslims of British India came to the conclusion that they would not stay in India under one government and they resolved to struggle for a homeland of their own. This dream was realised seven years later through the courage and indomitable will of our great leader, Quaid-e-Azam, Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Let me remind you today of what the Founder of Nation said in March, 1948.

"We demanded Pakistan, we struggled for it, we achieved it so that physically as well as spiritually we are free to conduct our affairs according to our traditions and genius. Brotherhood, equality and fraternity of man — these are all the basic points of our religion, culture and civilisation. And we fought for Pakistan because there was a danger of denial of these human rights... After all, the story of Pakistan, its struggle and its achievement is the story of great human ideals struggling to survive in the face of odds and difficulties.... The sooner we adjust ourselves to new faces, the sooner our mind's eye is capable of piercing through the horizons to see the limitless possibilities of our state and of our nation, the better for Pakistan. Then and then alone it would be possible for each one of us to realise the great ideals of human progress of social justice, of equality and of fraternity which, on the one hand, constitute the basic causes of the birth of Pakistan and also the limitless possibilities of evolving an ideal social structure in our state."

"These then are the ideals towards which we must strive to preserve, protect and defend the legacy of the Quaid. Let us all rededicate ourselves to the ideals of democracy, peace, social justice and an ability to fashion our lives according to our values. Let us on this day pledge to keep our covenant with the Quaid by closing our ranks and transforming the country into a modern welfare state.

"May Allah bless us in our efforts and enable us to prove ourselves worthy inheritors of the homeland bequeathed to us by the Quaid."

Pakistan Pindabad



Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto

Pakistan — the vision takes shape

By Syed Ghulam Jilani



President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto taking salute at the Pakistan Day parade in Rawalpindi last year on March 23.

First Round Table Conference in London (Nov 12, 1930 - Jan 19, 1931), and succeeded in having a resolution unanimously adopted admitting Muslim claims of adequate safeguards to be incorporated in a future constitution of India.

Change

An obvious change had come over Jinnah, too. Like Iqbal, he too had been a great believer in communal unity. Unlike Iqbal, he was active. He was in the Indian National Congress. His efforts had brought about the famous accord between the Hindus and Muslims, known as the Lucknow Pact and, he was acclaimed as a "messenger of unity," while Congress High Command member and a famous poetess, Ms Sarojini Naidu even gave him the sobriquet of "Mazzini."

Yet, when he was abdoluting the theory of a single Muslim state, Iqbal was not indulging in the fantasy of a poet or a philosopher. He was speaking with full confidence in himself, as a lawyer and a politician. So convinced, indeed, was he of the soundness of his postulate that he asserted:

"The formation of a consolidated west Indian Muslim state appears to be the final destiny of the Muslims, at least, of north western India." This was Iqbal's solution to the constitutional controversy raging between Hindus and Muslims on a future constitution of India, on the issue of joint versus separate electorate. Hindus wanted joint Muslims, separate.

While Iqbal was speaking at home about a single Muslim state, Jinnah was pleading the case of the Indian Muslims at the

First Round Table Conference in London (Nov 12, 1930 - Jan 19, 1931), and succeeded in having a resolution unanimously adopted admitting Muslim claims of adequate safeguards to be incorporated in a future constitution of India.

Element

Meanwhile, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi returning from South Africa introduced the spiritual element in Indian politics. Jinnah, an ardent Congressite, quite in 1920 when Gandhi started the non-co-operation movement against the government.

Question

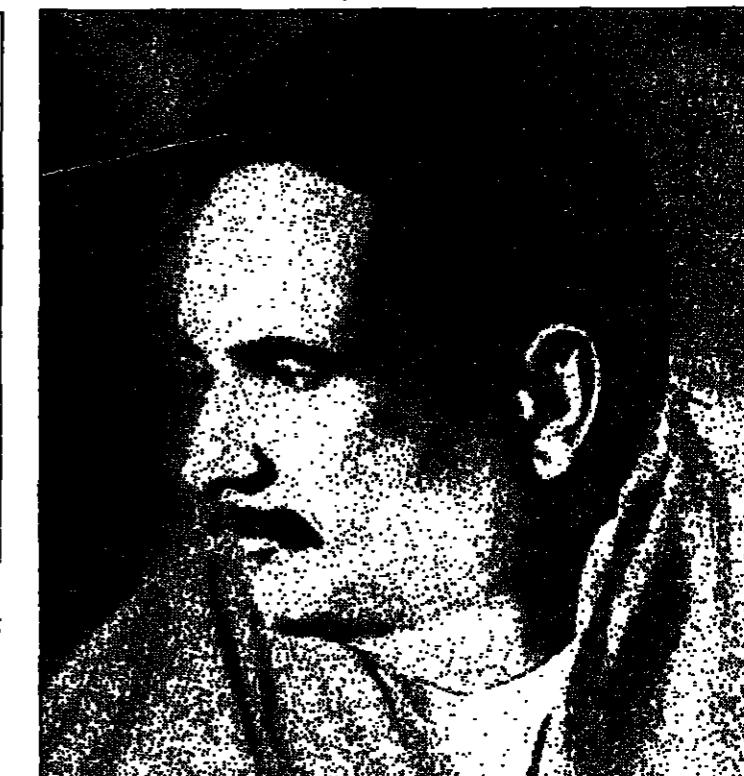
Recognising the genuineness of the communal question, the British government announced the Communal Award on

August 4, 1932, allowing separate electorate for Muslims, Europeans and Sikhs, as also Indian Christians. Baulked, the Congress boycotted the Third RTC (November-December 1932) and re-started civil disobedience in August 1933.

Meanwhile, in March 1933, the British government had published a White Paper presenting draft proposals for the constitution of India. And the Indian Constitution Bill formulated by the Parliamentary Select Committee, after royal assent on August 1935, became the Government of India Act, 1935.

But the Congress continued to reject the Muslim claim to a separate political entity. Said Nehru in 1935 "There are only two parties in the sub-continent: the British Government and the Indian National Congress." Rejoined Jinnah: "There is also a third party. We are not going to be dictated by anybody."

In the general elections under the Government of India Act, 1935, held in 1937, Congress was returned in majority in six provinces, and formed



Dr Aliam Mohammed Iqbal

"Deliverance Day" (December 22, 1939).

Time had now come for the Muslims to decide their destiny. Iqbal was dead but in 10 years his vision had assumed definite contours. So that on March 23, 1940, when Bengal's A.K. Fazlul Haque moved the resolution demanding an independent Muslim state, the sea of humans assembled at Lahore's Minto Park from all over India, responded with a resounding roar of *one voice* approval. Pakistan's foundation had been laid.

And, less than seven years from that historic date, Pakistan emerged on the world map as an independent, Muslim state, on August 14, 1947, with Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah as its first governor-general. Iqbal had been vindicated.

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By M. Rafique Afzal

MARCH 23 has a special significance in the recent history of South Asia and the Muslim world. Fifty years ago on this date the Muslims of the South Asian subcontinent demanded a separate homeland for themselves in those regions of the subcontinent where they had numerical majority. This demand for a separate state came to be known as the "Pakistan Demand". Its uniqueness was in its novelty, in the sense that no region or state with that nomenclature had existed in history. However, its origins lay in the growth and development of the Muslim community in the subcontinent.

Muslims came into contact with the South Asian subcontinent soon after the rise of Islam as traders and missionaries. They established their first government in the areas of the present-day Pakistan by conquest in the beginning of the eighth century. From here they gradually extended their power to other parts of the subcontinent and remained the dominant force till the eighteenth century. Their numerical strength grew by waves of migrations from Central Asia and other parts of the Muslim world and by conversion of non-Muslims to Islam.

The South Asian Muslims made rich contribution to Islamic culture and world civilisation in such fields as painting, architecture, music, administration and other branches of learning. Islamic culture in the subcontinent developed quite distinct features. Unlike other cultures that came into contact with the Hindu civilisation and were completely merged into it, the Islamic culture maintained its independent personality. Islamic and Hindu cultures co-existed over centuries of their contact. Their inherent separateness lay dormant during the long period of Muslim rule and all attempts at their assimilation into each other left behind memories of bitterness and mutual hostility.

Focus

The British colonial rule ushered in a new era in the subcontinent. It brought into sharp focus the inherent conflicts in the two cultures. The erroneous impression of Hindu-Muslim unity created by a few rare instances of united resistance to colonial rule was always short-lived and transitory. The two communities perceived the new



Quaid-i-Azam and Nawabzada Liaqat Ali Khan pose with Khan Saadullah Khan and Nawab of Mamdot at the Lahore session in March, 1940.



Choudhry Khalid-uz-Zaman speaking at the Pakistan session of Muslim League on April 22, 1940. Liaqat Ali Khan and Mian Bashir Ahmad are also pictured.

March 23

The day the idea of Pakistan was born

realities of British colonialism differently: for the Hindus it was merely a change of rulers to which they easily adjusted but for the Muslims who were suppressed, the change was hard to digest as it transformed their status from that of rulers to a subject race. These conflicting perceptions contributed to Muslims thinking on independent lines.

Muslim response to British colonialism itself was not a unified struggle. After the abortive War of Independence in 1857-58, one section of the Muslim community stuck to the policy of armed resistances against the British in the northwest, near the borders of Afghanistan, and gained prominence whenever there was the remotest possibility of freedom from British rule. Another section went into seclusion discarding armed struggle and Western education, and devoted themselves to religious instruction and endeavoured to preserve the religious and spiritual identity of the Muslims. Other Muslims reconciled to the changed circumstances.

They followed the advice of Sir Sayed Ahmad Khan in support of the British system and began to acquire Western education and learning. The educational



A view of the crowd of half a million men and women who heard their leaders.

Congress accepted their demand for separate electorates. This mode of separate representation, the Muslim response to developments in the Muslim world especially the threat to the integrity of the Ottoman caliphate and the Muslim holy places during the First World War for which they launched a broad-based movement in post-war era, and the emergence of militant Hindu revivalism strengthened their Islamic identity.

Luckily, the Muslims enjoyed

1930s, several attempts were made to evolve an agreed constitutional formula for the settlement of the Hindu-Muslim problem. The same story, i.e. lack of accommodation and tolerance on the part of the Hindu leadership, was repeated everywhere; whether it was the question of Hindu-Muslim unity talks of the 1920s, or the drafting of the Nehru Report and the debate on its recommendations at the All Parties National Convention (1928), or the settlement of the constitutional problem at the Round Table Conferences in London (1930-32).

Elements

The Muslims experienced the consequences of democratic, which in other words meant Hindu majority, rule in the Hindu majority provinces under Congress rule in the 1930s. There was a systematic attempt at the governmental level to obliterate all the elements of Muslim cultural identity. More than anything else this factor inflamed the long-simmering Muslim nationalism.

The concept of a separate Muslim state in the South Asian subcontinent was not a new phenomenon. Its possible establishment had been visualised by many a perceptive observer of the South Asian political scene

since the middle of the nineteenth century. These observers included Muslim scholars and thinkers, Hindu politicians and British administrators. The frequency of proposals for the partitioning of the subcontinent on communal lines or the creation of a separate homeland for the Muslims increased in the 1920s when Hindu-Muslim antagonism heightened and no agreed constitutional formula could be evolved.

Alama Muhammad Iqbal, the great Muslim poet-philosopher, hinted at its possibility and gave philosophical basis to the idea for the first time in the platform of an all-India organisation in his presidential address to the Muslim League in 1930. Inspired by his pronouncements, Chaudhry Rahmat Ali and a few other Muslim students at Cambridge coined the word "Pakistan". After this there was a flood of literature, arguing in elaborate plans for a Muslim state.

The All-India Muslim League had been the main organisation of the Muslims negotiating with the British and the Congress for their political and constitutional rights. Its fortunes fluctuated over the years; sometimes it was overshadowed by other Muslim parties for short duration, but

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TOURISM

A paradise for tourists

By Asghar Ahmad

PAKISTAN'S proximity to the Middle East may lead some to think that it is typographically similar to that region. Quite the contrary. There are beaches and deserts in Pakistan, but largely it is an alluvial and fertile plain rising into higher altitudes, and in the north and north-west of the country the area called the northern region, is simply out of this world! It is unique in every respect.

A great mountaineer, Eric Shipton, who lies buried in the perpetual snows of Pakistan's northern region, once wrote: "To describe this region was to indulge in superlatives, for everywhere you look, are the highest, the longest and the largest mountains, glaciers and rivers in the world."

Highest mountains: He was right. It is the meeting place of the world's three greatest mountain ranges: the Himalayas, the Hindu Kush and the Karakoram. The result is that within a range of a few square miles you come across, the biggest conglomeration, of some of the world's highest peaks, including the K-2 (8,611 metres), second only to the Everest. Other peaks exceeding 8,000 metres are: Nanga Parbat (8,126 metres); Gasherbrum I (8,068 metres); Broad Peak (8,047 metres), and Gasherbrum II (8,049 metres). In this area there are also peaks of more than 7,000 metres (21,000 feet) height.

Between the mountains lie heavenly valleys, of places like Chitral, Gilgit, Skardu, Swat and Kaghan, now the latter belonging administratively a part of the Federally Administered Tribal Province.

These valleys, for their breath-taking and invigorating climate, have been compared to the mythological Shangri La. Each has its own charm, scenic beauty and potential for outdoor sports.

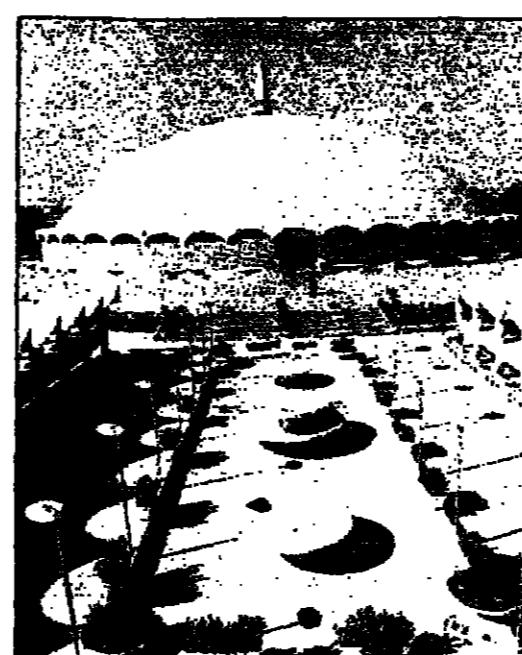
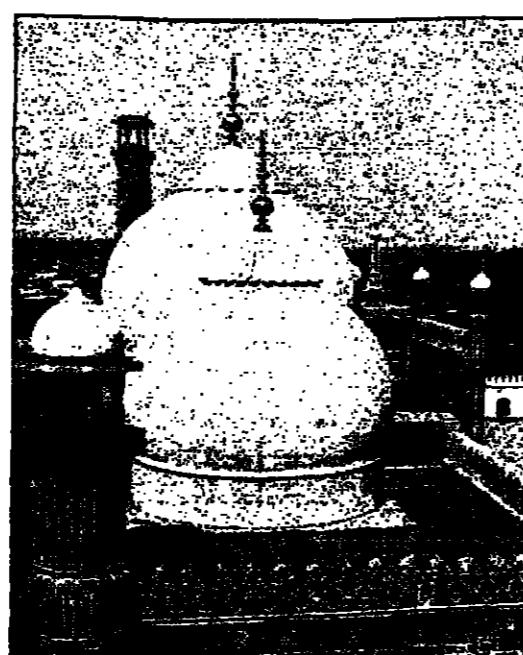
The northern region is also the world's most glaciated area outside the Arctic and the Antarctic. The Siachen Glacier is about 74 kilometres long and largest glacier in the area. Others include

the Baltoro, Biafo, Hispar and the Batura, each of which is 58 kilometres long.

Karakoram Highway: The Karakoram Highway (KKH) hit the world headlines when it was completed about 13 years ago. It connects Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, with the Xinjiang province of China. In 1986 again KKH was in the news. The occasion was when the Khunjerab Pass, where the highway ends, 16,000 feet high, in the Karakoram range and enters China, was opened for foreign tourists. That summer, therefore, a sizeable traffic on the road to China was witnessed.

The planning and building of the Karakoram highway took 20 years. It is a tribute to the skills and spirit of the engineers of the Pakistan army who, assisted by their Chinese counterparts, built the road in a terrain which is breath-taking and skirts peaks that are crowned with gleaming snow throughout the year. The road has 24 major bridges and 70 smaller ones. Four hundred and five people lost their lives in its completion.

The preparations for opening



of the Khunjerab Pass for foreigners had been going on since the completion of the Karakoram Highway and transport arrangements today exist for travelling across the border in comfort and safety. On the Pakistani side, of course, a tourist can drive in his own car — so fine is the condition of the newly built highway.

The importance of the Karakoram Highway can be realised from the fact that before its construction, the jeep track over Babusar Pass in Kaghan, which led to the Gilgit valley, was open only for three to four months in a year. The journey from Gilgit to Chalt was over a risky track. From Chalt the path was nerve-racking, sometimes supported by wooden planks wedged into the mountain side, hundreds of feet above the raging rivers. Many travellers perished on the way.

The construction of airstrips at Gilgit and Skardu and introduction of PIA services, originally by Dakotas and later by F-27s, first brought these areas in regular communication with the rest of the country. These flights are still considered a tremendous experience as the peaks on both sides of the route rise much higher than the maximum altitude of the aircraft which follows the course of the River Indus.

Mountaineering: Mountaineers come to this area from all over the world. In 1987 over 60 expeditions had been given permission to scale the various peaks. The Pakistani government have also opened mountaineering during the winter season and some permissions were granted in 1985 and 1986.

Trekking: The northern region, however, is a paradise for trekkers. No permission is required for "open" treks. For people going to restricted treks, however, permission is needed from the Ministry of Tourism, which can be made available within a short time.

An all-out effort is being made to train loaders and guides for the trekkers. Several reliable agencies are operating with their offices in Islamabad.

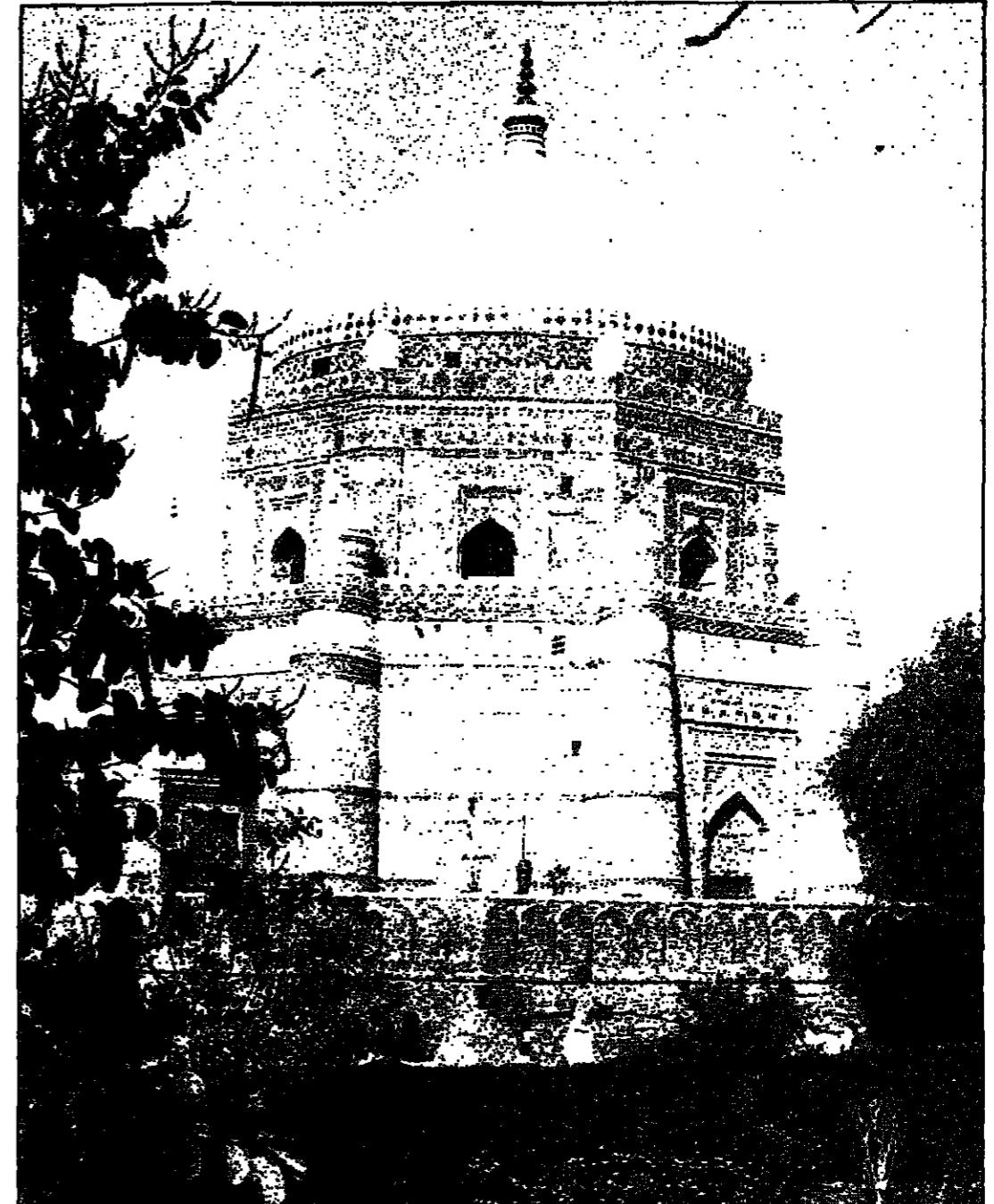
Water sports: In 1986 certain parts of the mountain streams were opened for white water sports and international enthusiasts came with their own rafts and equipment, and it is hoped that gradually all infrastructure will be available for the visitors.

Himalayan Marathon: Five years ago (1985), a world-famous Swiss mountaineer, Sylvain Saudan, introduced a

new international sport in the northern areas. He organised a Super Himalayan Marathon in which participants from all over the world, took part in the marathon race. The event took place in the Valley of Baltoro. It comprised three steps of Himalayan path — from 3,000 to 5,000 feet high. The participants, which included women, were distributed in three categories. The marathon also took place in 1986 with increased number of runners and it is expected to become an annual event.



A view of the Khyber Pass.



Tomb of Shah Rukn-e-Alam.

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Land and people

Islam shapes culture for thousands of years

By Shazia Iqbal

ON AUGUST 14, 1947, when a new state appeared on the map of the world and was christened "Pakistan", the event was heralded as unique in the history of the Indian subcontinent.

On this historic occasion the founder and architect of the nation, Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, declared: "The establishment of Pakistan, for which we have been striving for the last ten years, is today, by the grace of God, an established fact. The idea was that we should have a state in which we could develop according to our own genius and culture and where principles of Islamic social justice could find free play."

The name "Pakistan" is derived from two Persian words "Pak" (meaning pure) and "Stan" (meaning country), implying a country in which Islam is practised as laid down by the Holy Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him).

In the words of a contemporary British historian, Sir Percival Spear, "it may be said that the birth of Pakistan was the result of a very strong urge... of which there was first the consciousness of a separated Islamic culture and way of life, colouring values and affecting action, which ran to the roots of Muslim being."

Physical features: The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, as it is known today, is located between 23° 37' north latitude and 61° 76' east longitude, with an area of 796,095 sq. km. The country is as big as the United Kingdom and France put together and extends from the



The Indus Valley Civilisation, unearthed in 1921, ranks as one of the three literate settlements 5,000 years ago.

Pamirs and the Hindu Kush mountains in the north to the Arabian Sea in the south. It is bounded by Afghanistan on the northwest, Iran on the west, India on the east and southeast, and Arabian Sea on the south.

There is also a common border with China along Gilgit and Baltistan on the north.

Geographically, Pakistan is the only country in the world where three famous mountain ranges meet—the Himalayas,

the Karakoram and the Hindu Kush, separating it from China and the Soviet Union.

With the assemblage of 35 peaks of over 24,000 ft height (7,315 metres), the region is the "mountaineers' paradise". Many of the summits are higher than 26,000 ft (7,925 metres), and the highest, K-2 at 28,250 ft (8,610 metres), is the second highest in the world.

The Karakoram Highway, which is the highest trade route in

the world, passes through these mountains. It is considered to be a marvel of modern engineering, attracting the tourists for an exciting trip between Pakistan and China on the ancient "Silk Route" taken by explorers like Heus Tsang and Marco Polo in the past.

People and language: At the time of independence, the population of Pakistan was estimated at 32.5 million. Between 1947 and 1981 it increased more than two-and-a-half times to 84.3 million. The population on January 1, 1989, is estimated at 107 million based on the intercensal growth rate of 3.1 percent. As a result, among the 37 low-income countries, Pakistan is the fourth most populous country after China, India and Bangladesh.

Ethnically, the majority of Pakistanis come from the Indo-Aryan stock, although we can find the Dravidian, Semitic and Mongoloid elements scattered all over the country. Similarly, the overwhelming majority (over 94 per cent) of the population is Muslim, and the remaining are minority communities that include Christians, Hindus, Parsis and the Buddhists.

There are four distinct regional languages—Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashto and Balochi, besides half-a-dozen different dialects spoken in the country, but the lingua franca is Urdu, while English is used for all official correspondence and commercial and banking transactions, etc.

The climate is extremely diverse, from severe cold to excessively hot, according to the aspect and elevation. Winters, however, are quite pleasant in the plains and along the Arabian Sea coast in the south.

Foundations of Pakistan: The country has had a great and glorious past. It offers vast, varied and valuable treasures of archaeology comparable to any in the world. The Indus civilisation of the third millennium BC, unearthed in 1921 in the great river system of Pakistan, ranks as one of the first three literate civilisations of the world, following closely upon those of Mesopotamia and Egypt.

The remains of the Indus valley civilisation discovered at Harappa in the Punjab and Moenjodaro in Sind are among the most spectacular cities of the world, with their well-laid streets, brick-built houses, complete with stairways, wells and bathrooms, underground drainage system and rubber chutes, etc.

The discovery of a large number of square steatite and brown jasper seals, bearing engravings of animals, trees and human figures, with an illegible inscription, have been puzzling the epigraphists and linguists for the past.

Again, at Taxila in the Punjab, about 30 km from Islamabad, the federal capital, on the main highway to the frontier city of Peshawar, are ruins of four great civilisations: Greek, Scythian, Parthian and Buddhist, the earliest having been occupied by about 180 BC.

Peshawar, the capital of the North West Frontier Province, is one of the ancient cities of Pakistan, known for its Arabian Nights atmosphere and traditional arts and crafts. Its proximity to the legendary Khyber Pass, through whose rugged ravines have flowed countless hordes of invaders, thus shaped the culture and customs of the people of this land for a continuous span of over a thousand years. The most valuable among its contributions was the fine art of building as introduced in the subcontinent in the shape of mosques and shrines, palaces and pavilions, distinguished by tall minarets and domes of monumental size, and achievements in the sphere

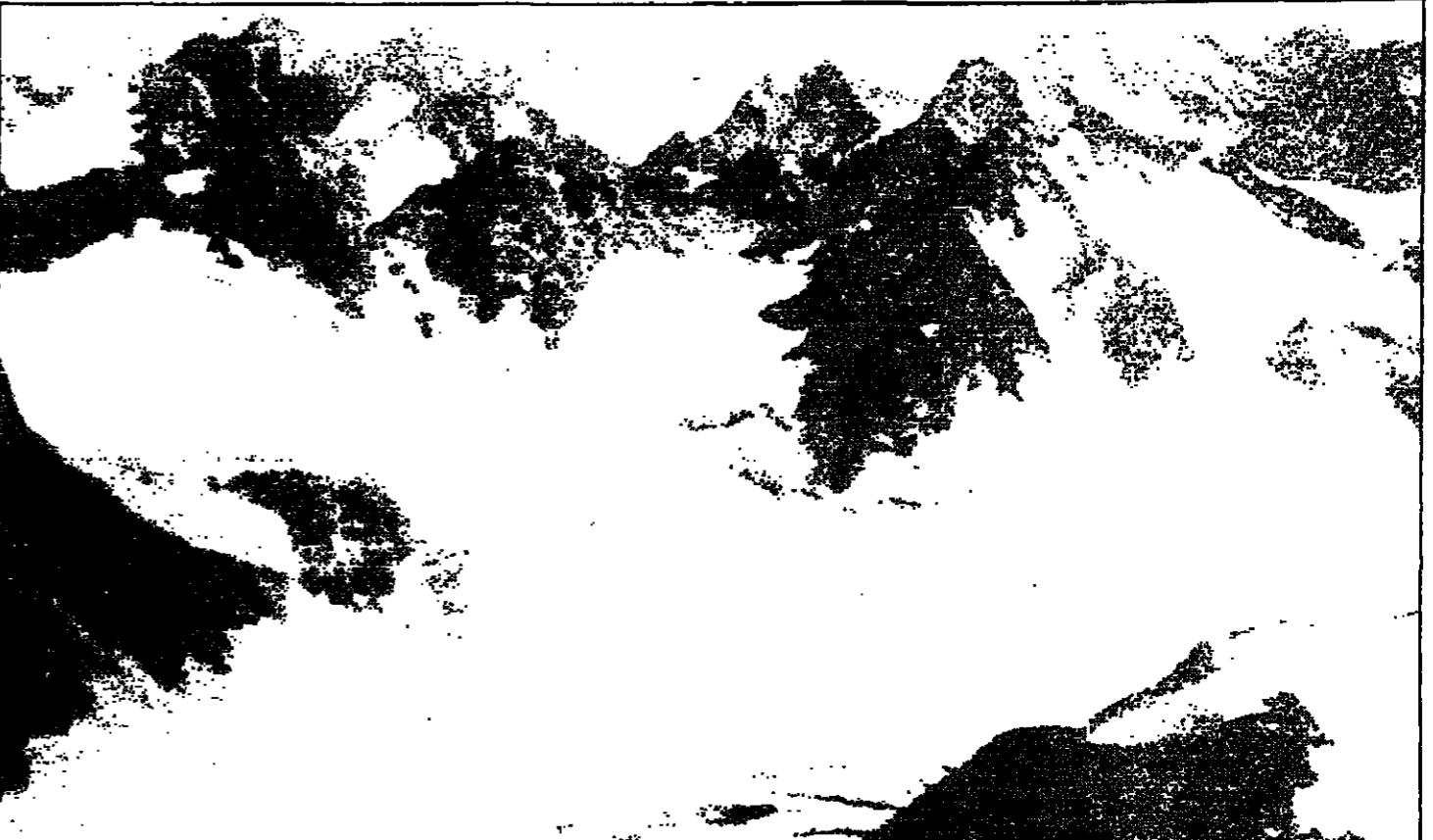
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Advent of Islam: The long span of a millennium, from the arrival of the Arabs to the decline and fall of the Mughal empire, however, laid foundations of Islamic civilisation on the soil of Pakistan, affecting almost every facet of life and thought. They provided a revolutionary change in the social and cultural traditions, whether it was food and drinks (which are totally different from the non-Muslim culinary traditions), architecture and housing, furniture and drapery, cosmetics and beauty aids, colourful apparel and stylised jewellery, etc.

More than these physical changes in the lifestyle, a much deeper and more effective spiritual renaissance took place among the people during this period. This was the result of the selfless devotion and teachings of the Muslim sufis, religious scholars and the devotees of Islam, who travelled from far and wide and came over to this part of the world, to convey the message of love and brotherhood to humanity, without any ulterior motives.

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of decorative arts such as stucco, mosaic, faience, pietra-dura, and the colourful inlay besides glazed tile and mirror work in attractive floral and geometrical designs. Lahore, the capital of Punjab, as the second largest city of Pakistan, is, in fact, known as the "Queen of Cities". It has been the

hub of cultural and academic activities since the time of the great Mughals, and is today the most important centre of scholastic and artistic pursuits in the fields of fine arts, architecture, painting, calligraphy, music and the development of new trends in Urdu prose and poetry.

Advent of Islam: The long span of a millennium, from the arrival of the Arabs to the decline and fall of the Mughal empire, however, laid foundations of Islamic civilisation on the soil of Pakistan, affecting almost every facet of life and thought. They provided a revolutionary change in the social and cultural traditions, whether it was food and drinks (which are totally different from the non-Muslim culinary traditions), architecture and housing, furniture and drapery, cosmetics and beauty aids, colourful apparel and stylised jewellery, etc.

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Export of textile and textile products

By Akhtar Alam
DG (Textile) EPB

PAKISTAN is a predominantly agricultural country and cotton occupies an important place in the economy. Raw cotton is Pakistan's major foreign exchange earner followed by cotton yarn, cotton cloth, garments and cotton made-ups. Export of cotton and textile products accounts for about 60 per cent of the total exports.

The political stability coupled with the incentives available to manufacturers and exporters provided the right framework for rapid growth of the industry in the sixties. Our exports were, however, confined to cotton yarn and cotton piece goods which starting from scratch in 1954 amounted to 24 million dollars in 1964. These phenomena, however, proved short-lived and soon the industry had to face major shocks - loss of markets in the eastern wing, labour unrest on account of shift in the labour policy, increase in liabilities on account of massive devaluation etc. Production and exports not only stagnated but also declined and a large part of the industry became sick.

After the loss of half of the internal market in 1971, our businessmen had no choice but to look for markets abroad. Their aggressive marketing succeeded and export of cotton textiles started picking up. The revaluation of Rupee in 1973 provided further fillip to export efforts and besides cotton yarn and piece goods production and export of manufactured goods such as tents and canvas, cotton bags, towels, hosiery and other cotton made-ups progressively increased during the seventies.

Our exports in 1988 amounted to 4.48 billion dollars out of which the share of textiles and textile products (including cotton) was 1.987 billion dollars (45 per cent). The percentage of textiles and textile products has increased from 37 per cent in 1985 to 45 per cent in 1988.

Cotton Yarn

It is reported that one million new spindles have been installed besides reactivating half a million closed ones. Production of cotton yarn has reached 65 million Kgs per month as against 55 million Kgs in 1987-88.

Pakistan holds an important position in the cotton yarn trade in the world. A quantity of 211 million Kgs valued at 541 million dollars was exported during 1987-88 which was all time high in terms of price and value. Exports during the last ten years have nearly trebled.

According to recent indications, the prices of cotton yarn have started falling. It seems that it has reached its peak and a turnaround is in the way. Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong are the major buyers who account for 70 to 75 per cent of the total exports of yarn. The share of medium count has slightly increased but the large part of our yarn still comprises coarser counts.

Cotton Fabrics

The cotton weaving industry is divided into two sectors namely mills and the powerlooms. In the mill sector, the number of looms have decreased from 30,000 to 8,000 over the years. In the powerloom sector, there are approximately 100,000 looms. Thus the powerloom sector is by far the largest weaving sector producing cotton cloth for domestic consumption and export. This sector comprises units which are small, scattered and unorganized. Most of the units are located at Faisalabad. The price of cloth produced by these units is low but the quality is not up to the mark.

The manufacture and export of cloth has not shown much progress. Although its export in 1987-88 amounted to 485 million dollars as compared to 345 million dollars in 1986-87, it has started declining in 1988-89. The decline in the first six months of the current year is more than 13 per cent. The share of finished cloth has substantially increased in the recent years and the ratio of grey and finished is now about 60:40. The major buyers of our cotton fabric are U.K., U.S.A., Saudi Arabia, Australia, France, West Germany, USSR and Tanzania. They account for about 50 per cent of the total exports.

The weaving industry is currently passing through a transition. About 2000 shuttleless looms have been installed and more are in the pipeline. This will bring the required modernisation in the weaving sector with which the ancillary industries particularly the garment industry can not make much progress.

Towel industry forms part of the weaving sector. The towel-



ing units are also by and large small, scattered and unorganized. The quality of towels produced by these units is, therefore, not of a high order.

The production and export of towels of low and medium quality has, however, made substantial progress during the last ten years. Its export has consistently been showing increases from year to year. Starting from 21 million dollars in 1978-79 its export rose to 117.4 million dollars in 1987-88 recording an increase of about 500 per cent.

The major buyers of our towels are USA, West Germany, UK, France, USSR, Canada, Japan, Sweden, Norway, Italy, Netherlands and Saudi Arabia.

Most of these countries have annual quotas on import of towels from Pakistan. The USA is the main market to which our towels are exported in bulk at a very low price. There is a large demand for white bleached towels in the United States which the Pakistani exporters could easily supply but for the annual quota restraint the export is limited.

Bed Linen

The bed linen industry has made remarkable progress during the 90s. In the beginning, the industry mainly concentrated on production and export of bleached sheets and pillow cases to cater to the requirements of hotels and hospitals abroad. The introduction of the latest rotary printing machines has, however, brought a revolution in the field of printing and dyeing. The bed linen industry has largely benefited from this development and is reflected in the quality and

value of its exports made during the last five years.

Export of cotton made-ups which mainly comprises bed linen and table linen amounted to 175.75 million dollars in 1987-88 as compared to 58.65 million in 1983-84 showing an increase of 200 per cent. Presently the export of the table linen forms a small part of the exports but has great scope for expansion.

Hosiery

The major buyers of table and bed-linen are USA, West Germany, Netherlands and UK. The EEC countries account for about 50 per cent of the exports. The product has great potential in USA to whom sheets and pillow cases made of blended fabrics were exported to the extent of 26 million Sq. Yds. during 1988. Our exporters have found a foothold for this product in USA which offers substantial scope for expansion in the current year. The sheets and pillow cases made from cotton have received positive response from the US buyers and it is anticipated that export of these products will substantially pick-up in coming years.

The readymade garments industry owes its origin to the 70s and is, therefore, of a recent origin. In the beginning the industry mainly depended on production of handloom and traditional garments which were in great demand in Europe and America as casual wears. Encouraged by the success in this field, some of the businessmen started producing basic garments with the help of imported samples and succeeded in exporting them to the Western European countries and the USA.

Ready-made garments

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With a view to accelerating the pace of industrial development and diversifying the structure of manufacturing industries, the government of Pakistan has made concerted efforts to attract foreign private investment. Pakistan has invited members of the Chambers of Commerce and Industries of various countries to assess the investment potential of the country and to explore the possibilities of joint ventures. Government has also provided all sorts of incentives and assurances to the foreign investors.

Foreign private investment has not been all that significant in Pakistan. The need for it was not felt with that urgency in the past because Pakistan had focussed on labour-intensive consumer goods industries which did not involve any sophisticated technology. However, the future industrialisation of the country depends on the growth of consumer durables, capital goods and intermediate goods industries. These industries involve sophisticated technology which is possessed by the multinationals. Accordingly, the only way technology can be transferred is through the foreign private investment. In order to attract private investment government has provided various incentives. The foreign investors have not only been allowed to remit their profits and capital but they are also allowed to remit their capital

gains. They are also provided relief from double taxation and the foreign employees are allowed to remit 50 per cent of their net incomes. Besides, all the incentive granted to the domestic investors, which are rather significant, are also provided to the foreign investors. Domestic market is protected against competitive imports through tariffs and if need be through non-tariff barriers. However, there are no restrictions on the imports of raw materials and intermediate goods. As a matter of facts, most of the industries where private foreign investment is expected to flow (such as consumer durables requiring sophisticated technology) are allowed to import their input requirement at concessional rates of duties ranging between zero and thirty per cent. It is, therefore, obvious that the government of Pakistan has endeavoured to raise both the pre-and the post-tax profits to attract more foreign investment.

Rate

No doubt there has been a very sharp increase in the foreign private investment at the rate of 24 per cent per annum over the last few years. Nevertheless, the foreign private investment forms very small proportion of total investment in the country. The low foreign investment until recently is largely attributed to

the company's development into the contracting and import/export business.

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We take pleasure in giving below a brief outline of our group's diversified activities at present being accomplished by the owners who successfully developed into an interlinked group of companies with solid background and modern approach like: Abdul Rahman Al Bisher Sons Co. It groups Al Bisher Company, Freight Forwarding Division; and other sister companies (A-1).

Origins: Abdul Rahman Al Bisher, owner of the company belongs to one of the oldest established trading and business families of Kuwait.

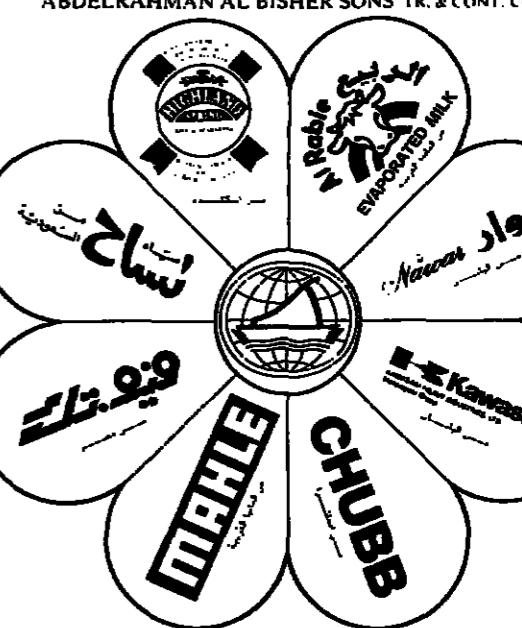
Diverse activity

rather long delays in investment sanctioning and the inadequate infrastructures. During the last few months, major steps have been taken in this direction and it is hoped that they would lead to a very sharp acceleration in the pace of foreign investment.

One of the main complaints of the overseas investors in the developing countries has been that the government takes rather long to decide whether setting up of a project would be allowed or not. Moreover, sometimes after waiting for long time, a negative decision is conveyed to the investor which discourages other investors. Furthermore, even when the government does approve a project, long time taken in the decision changes the parameters governing the project so significantly that investors tend to lose interest.

In view of the significance of this aspect, the government has published a prohibited list and positive list of the industries for overseas private investment. Except for agriculture, land, forestry, irrigation, real estate, radioactive minerals, insurance and health, foreign investment is not welcome in all the activities. The industrial policy also suggests that the industries based on sophisticated technology which are generally capital intensive are even more welcomed. Government also values the industries

شركة أبناء عبد الرحمن التجارية والمناجلات



We extend our profound Greetings to Government and People of Pakistan on the auspicious occasion of Pakistan Day, and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Pakistan Resolution.

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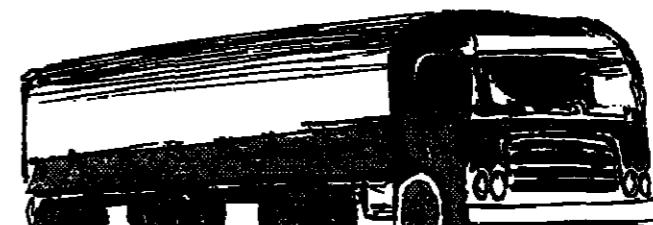
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صفحہ کویت
کارکویت
TRANACO کیت

ٹکنیکل فنٹ 1/2

ABDUL RAHMAN AL BISHER SONS

Plans and achievements

People's programmes for community welfare, development

NEARLY seventy per cent of Pakistan's population lives in rural areas characterised by a deep-rooted vicious circle of poverty, rural unemployment, illiteracy and a fatalistic view of the natural and social environments.

The need to accelerate economic growth to ameliorate the lot of the farming and non-farming rural communities, eradicate inequalities and to contain unemployment has been the concern of policy makers of the earlier governments. Various programmes were tried and tested in the past. These programmes were successful in varying degrees. Although they made considerable progress, yet a great deal was left undone. The investment inputs were far too limited to produce any dramatic results.

Amelioration of the lot of the farming and non-farming communities involves a complex process of change in rural subsystem and their interaction, leading to desired improvements in rural income, employment opportunities, incomes distribution, rural welfare and other aspects of rural life.

Committed

The present government under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is committed to broad-based socio-economic programme for providing the basic needs as well as anti-poverty programme focused on raising the income through income generating schemes/projects that the poor and the underprivileged in the community are enabled to raise their income as well as standard of living.

In view of the above and in order to have well-defined programmes which will help the objectives of the People's Party manifesto and to guard against shortcomings and pitfalls of the past programmes, the present government has launched the "People's Programme".

Basic concept

The basic concept and approach of the People's Programme is to provide basic needs/amenities to the people such as drinking water, preventive and curative health cover



Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto addressing the people at the launch of the People's Programme in Punjab at Bahawalnagar on April 25, 1989.

Poverty alleviation			
Province	Sewing machines	Bicycles	Urea bags
Punjab	4,905	4,905	49,050
Sindh	1,975	1,975	19,750
NWFP	1,602	1,602	16,020
Baluchistan	918	918	9,180

sanitation, education and roads in rural and urban areas where the same are inadequately provided. People's programme differs from earlier programmes in its approach wherein the felt needs of the people are to be prioritised by the community itself. The community participates in planning and implementing the schemes/projects through decentralised decision system. For the successful implementation of the socio-economic requirements of certain communities or regions. It is also envisaged that in the near future community-based projects, on the lines of successful experiment i.e. Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) in the northern areas of Pakistan, Orangi Project in Sindh Province, etc. will also be included alongwith non-conventional concepts and schemes.

Sectors
Initially, the programme is concentrating on four sectors mentioned earlier. Presently, a large number of schemes identified by their beneficiaries are under implementation in these four sectors. Gradually other

sectors will also be included in the programme. The programme also provides for special developmental efforts depending on the socio-economic requirements of certain communities or regions.

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Project identification: This is for the first time that the beneficiaries are made responsible for identification of projects based on their felt needs and requirements. They are also

involved in planning the implementation of their projects. Under the People's Programme, development role of non-government organisations has been recognised and they are offered to take up maintenance and operational responsibility of completed schemes, if they desire so.

District committees: In order to decentralise the planning process from "top-down to bottom-up" approach, district committees have been constituted at the district level. These committees are made responsible for identification, planning, sanctioning administrative approval, supervision and maintenance of projects in their respective districts, costing up to Rs 500,000 (\$25,000). Under the People's

Programme emphasis is laid on smaller schemes with maximum territorial spread. However, depending on the requirements of the community and areas, the district committees may also initiate comparatively larger projects within their financial allocations.

In order to involve the community in the decentralised planning, the district committees have representatives of nation building departments, public-spirited persons known for their integrity and public service, as its members. Elected representatives also nominated as members of the district committees to ensure people's participation in the programme.

Supplemental role: The People's Programme as a developmental effort is so conceived that it does not affect other development programmes of provincial and federal department, rather, it supplements them. The idea is to fill the gaps in various developmental efforts, wherever required. The allocation made for this programme is in addition to normal allocations under the Annual Development Programme.

It is a fact that intensity and magnitude of problems faced by rural and neglected urban areas require much larger investments.

However, within the present allocations under the People's Programme, it is expected that at least the most neglected and needy sections of the society will have easy access to health, education, potable water supply and sanitation facilities.

The process of identification and formulation of schemes is proceeding satisfactorily. The province-wise position till November, 1989 is given hereunder:

Punjab: In the Punjab, a total number of 2,501 schemes have been approved costing Rs 454,812 million (\$22.74 million). A sum of Rs 301,901 million (\$15.054 million) has been released to the executing agencies. The schemes approved so far are at various stages of implementation.

Sindh: In Sindh a total of 1,610

schemes costing Rs 205,051 million (\$10.252 million) are at various stages of execution, for which a sum of Rs 63,485 million (\$13.174 million) has been released to the executing agencies. Meanwhile 21 schemes have been completed.

NWFP: In NWFP, so far 937 schemes costing a total sum of Rs 143,406 million (\$7.170 million) have been approved and a sum of Rs 44,538 (\$2.226 million) released. These schemes are at various stages of implementation.

Baluchistan: Despite hurdles created by the provincial government, action has been initiated to implement the programme. Two schemes in the communications sectors have been launched in district Loralai.

Islamabad capital territory: Thirty schemes costing Rs 6,504 million (\$0.325 million) have been approved and a sum of Rs 1,951 million (\$0.097 million) released being 30 per cent cost of the schemes.

In all 5,078 schemes have been approved for execution through-

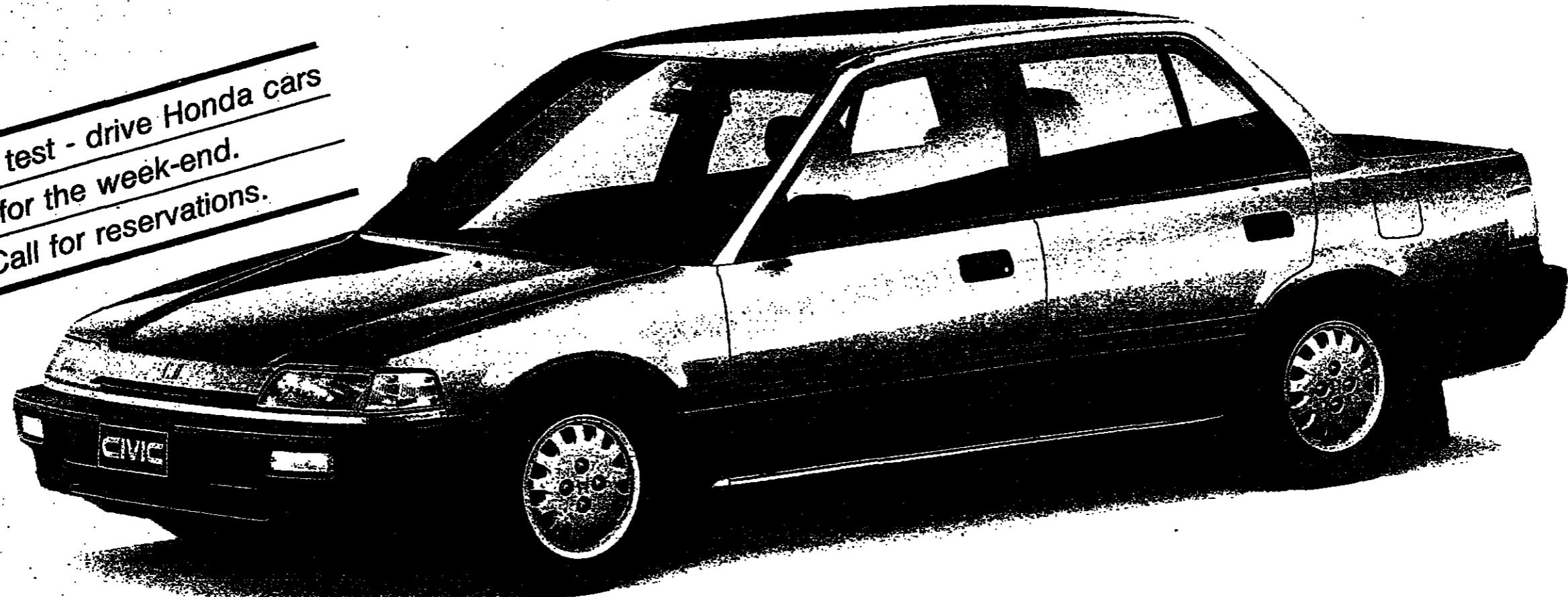
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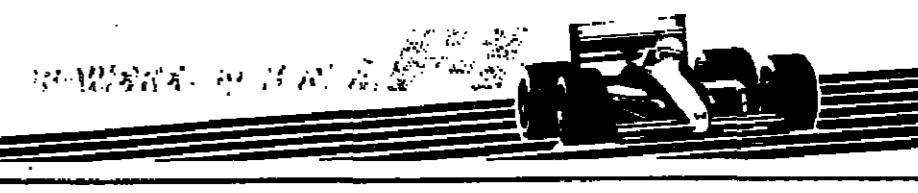
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Competitive spirit prevails

By Zafar Samdani

SPORTS were in as disorganized a state in Pakistan as everything else at the time of independence in August 1947. The new country was overwhelmed with innumerable problems, all crying for solution. In these circumstances, sports were, understandably not on any priority list. In fact, many sportsmen in colleges all over the country even skipped studies for a while to participate in the work relating to relief for and rehabilitation of refugees who were fleeing from all over the subcontinent and taking refuge in the new country at that time.

However, with a remarkably organised and determined effort, Pakistan very soon established an administrative routine and before the next year was out, it had made its mark internationally in two sports: hockey and cricket.

In the summer of 1948 Olympics in England, the first to be held after World War II, Pakistan sent a hockey team and a few athletes to participate therein. In the same year, West Indies cricket eleven, on a scheduled tour of India, paid a brief visit to Pakistan to play its first 'unofficial' test.

Pakistan finished around the bottom in the Olympic hockey but many of its players, among them the team's captain, A.I.S. Dara, a brilliant centre-half, impressed with their refined stick work, and in cricket, two Pakistani players, the captain, late Mian Saeed and Iftikhar Ahmed, took tons of the Windies, while a fast bowler by the name of Munawar Ali Khan, gave the visitors a taste of their medicine by hurling the ball at an unnerving speed.

It was still a long way from distinction and recognition but the next few years saw Pakistani players and organisers work tirelessly to get the country identified in the world of sports — and succeed they did.

Track & Field: The first significant performance, however, came from another contest — track and field events, in Asian



Some key members of the Pakistan cricket team... Salim Malik, Iftikhar Alam, manager, Abdul Qadir, and Miandad after winning the Sharjah cup

and the Commonwealth Games where sprinter Abdul Khalique was declared the fastest man in Asia, and Ghulam Raziq was only a shade slower, while Mohammad Nawaz and Jalal hurled the javelin across the sports field of Asia to hit gold and silver, and Mohammad Iqbal Khan threw the hammer with immense power.

In the fifties and the early sixties, Pakistan's army provided the bulk of national athletes — all the above players were from the army, but the 1965 war sent the soldiers to the more vital task of defending their country. As other institutions failed to produce athletes of this class, the standards suddenly nosedived in track and field events and have not recovered to this day, for sports is no more the prime concern of the armed forces. But in many other areas, the sportsmen of Pakistan have done wonders.

Hockey: Hockey is one such sport — though right now Pakistan, the defending Olympic champions, are not doing so well. Squash: Squash, of course, is the most prestigious sport for the country. Pakistani players have reigned supreme over squash

courts around the globe since the mid-fifties — in fact they gave that game its image, and sportsmen like Hashim Khan, Roshan Khan and today's champion Jahangir Khan are living legends, not just in Pakistan.

All this has been possible



World's No. 1 squash player Jahangir Khan won over 500 matches at a stretch

because of two reasons: an organised effort by the government and an abundance of talent in all sports, from all over Pakistan.

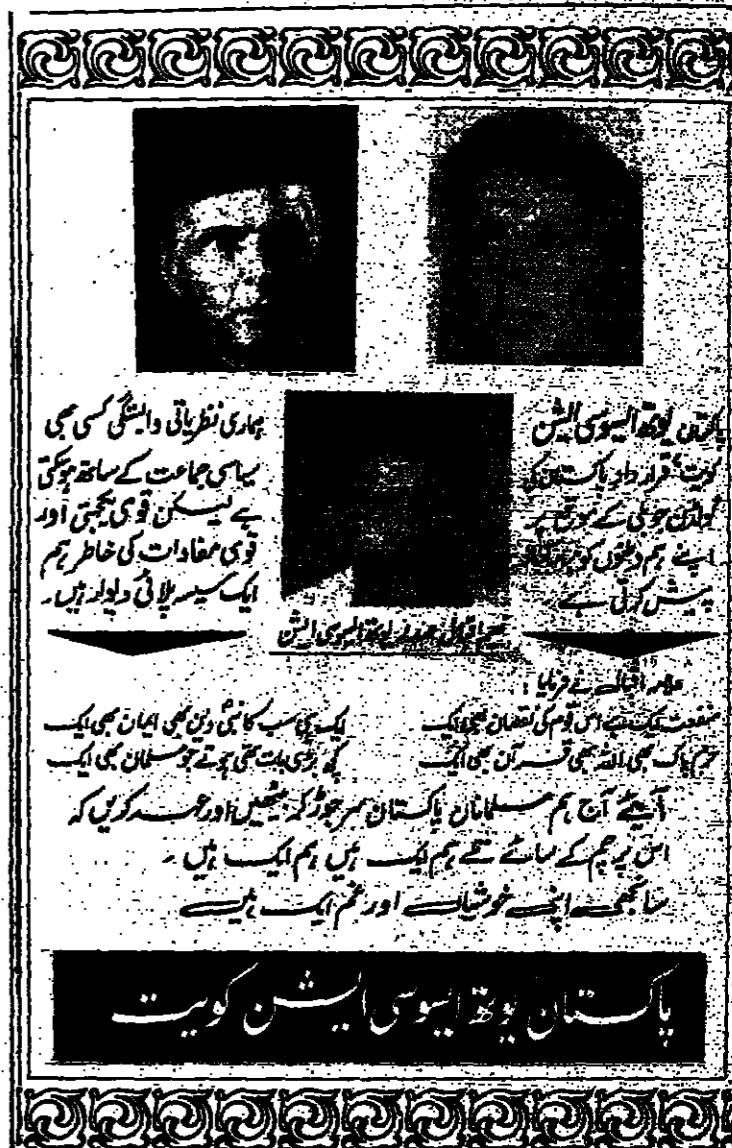
The Ministry of Education and Sports oversees the development of sports, finances tours abroad, arranges visits of foreign teams, and generally co-ordinates with organisations for individual sports which are set for all major games.

These federations, boards and associations work independently and in some cases, such as cricket, generate their own funds too. They are mostly run by elected officials and top former sportsmen are associated with organisational and training work as well as given managerial assignments. It is a collective effort that makes the sports scene tick. The presence of distinguished men from the past has an inspiring impact on the younger entrants in addition to the fact that the seniors guide and coach the younger players. For instance, two years back, former paceman, Khan Mohammad, was appointed coach with Pakistan cricket team. His stint led to the grooming and discovery of batsmen like Salim Malik and Rameez Raja and bowlers like Wasim Akram and Mohsin Kamal, to name a few. Similarly, national hockey team's current manager, Khalid Mahmood, is a former Olympic captain of Pakistan.

Wrestling, yachting: While cricket, hockey and squash can boast of extra-ordinary achievements and brilliant athletes, other sports have also had their finer moments. Pakistani boxers and wrestlers have been regularly securing gold, silver and bronze medals in Asian Games while yachting was the focus of attention when Bairam Avari and his wife struck gold in the sea at Asian Games in Bangkok.

One of the main reasons for these successes is an immense interest in sports among Pakistan's youth, many of whose members can be seen around sports fields, indeed even on streets, playing their favourite sports, on any given afternoon, come hail or sunshine. They reflect the people's vitality, will and sports mindedness.

Pakistan hockey team after winning the Third Asia Cup Championship in New Delhi in December 1989



Pakistan national hockey team after winning the Third Asia Cup Championship in New Delhi in December 1989

Nothing perhaps inspires the new players more than the former and present-day heroes in their fields. Imran Khan and Jawed Miandad have been instrumental in the maturing of bowlers and batsmen, while hockey heroes, Islahuddin, Samiullah and Manzoor Junior have influenced a whole generation of players, much like chiselling their own art by emulating men like Dara, Nasir Bunda, Abdul Hameed (Hameedi) and Shehnaz. It is a tradition that continuously passes from one generation of sportsmen to another and keeps the sports scene lively and winning laurels for the country.

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لوفٹھانس کی خدمتگاری پاکستان کی کوئی پریپے
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کے طور پر چکیں کی فریخت جن پر مفت 275,000 روپیہ ڈالر کے حادثاتی انسورنس فریم کیا گیا ہے۔



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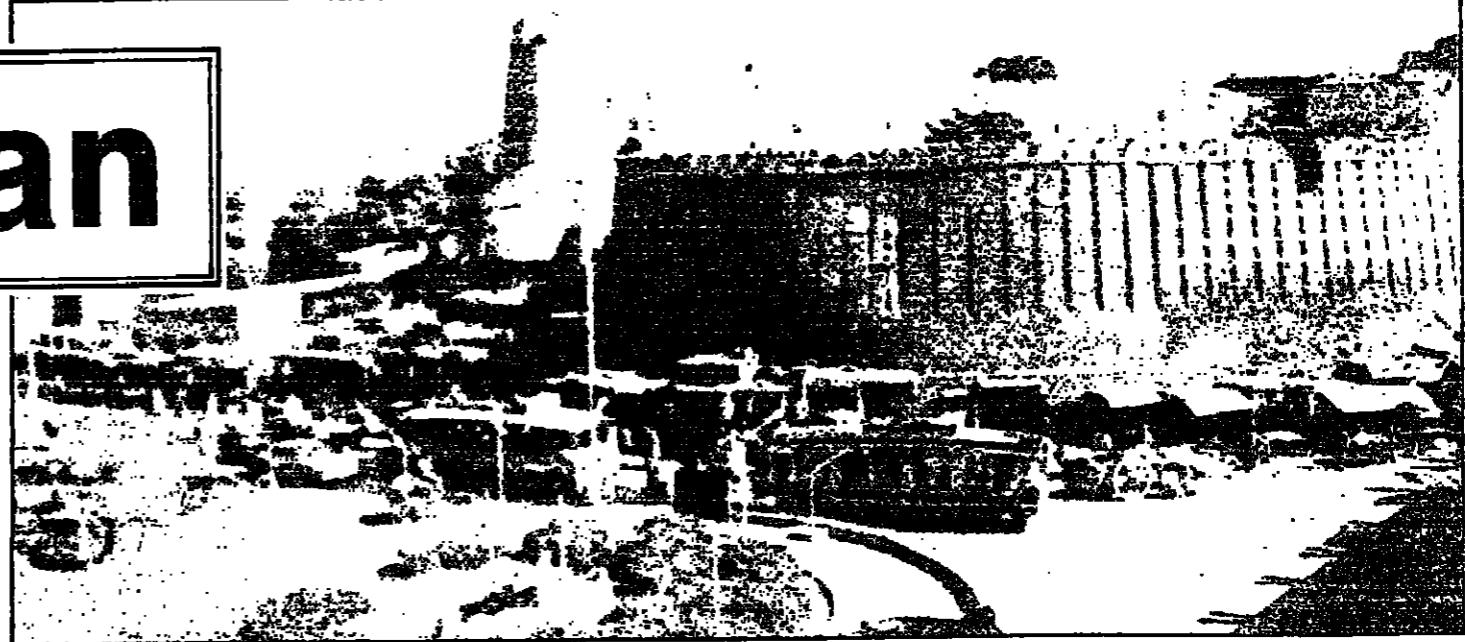
Lufthansa



Pictorial Pakistan



Yak caravan is a familiar sight on the Karakoram and the Hindukush ranges in the north.



Hyderabad Fort

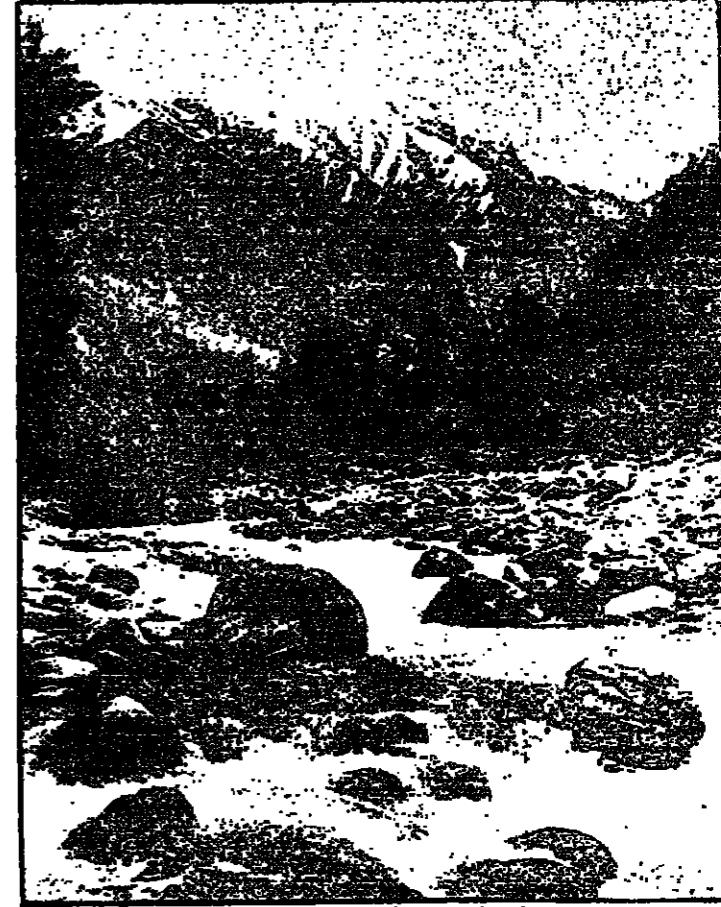
PAKISTAN stands at the crossroads of the world where the cultures of the Middle East and Asia meet and become one. Here ancient history exerts a profound and mellowing influence over the manner in which the technologies and attitudes of the late twentieth century are taken up, interpreted and used. Pakistan is a physically dramatic country and this drama shapes and influences the everyday-life of the people. It conditions their behaviour and colours their outlook on the world around them.



Shalimar Gardens (1052 AH/1642 AD), Lahore, constructed at the command of Emperor Shahjahan primarily as a place of recreation for the royal family is now a place of relaxation for all.



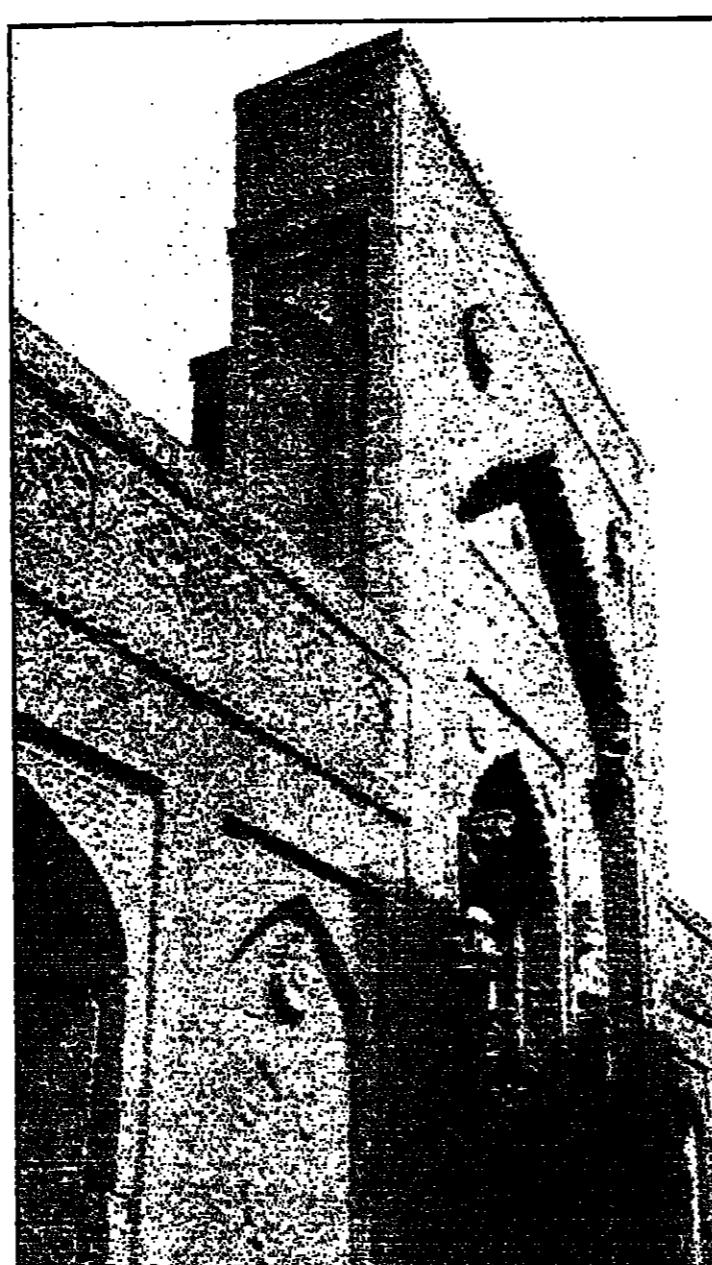
A view of Tarbela Dam, the largest earth-filled dam in the world.



The magnificent Swat Valley with lush-green landscapes and rushing rivers.



A PIA airhostess.



Farmers preparing sugar from sugarcane juice.



Poverty alleviation is one of the programmes. Above: children in a make-shift street school

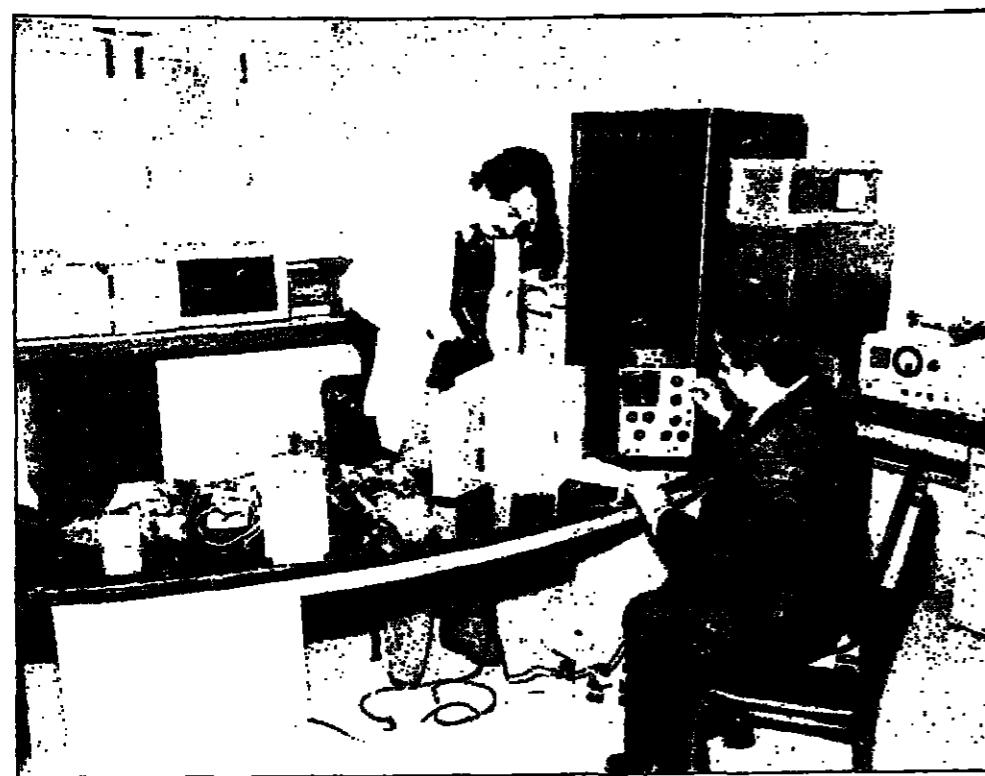


Largest valley of glaciers around K-2.

Exquisite stone carvings on the arch of the tomb of Mirza Jani Beg.

(17th century)

In 1989, Pakistan entered the missile age as three consecutive successes, all in the defence sector, came to the fore. The country successfully fired and tested indigenously manufactured surface-to-surface long range missiles.....



Atomic Energy Medical Centre, Lahore.

Progress of leather industries

By M. Jamil Khan

WHEN we compare the development and progress of Pakistan leather industry with any other country of the world, we can simply say it is short yet splendid. This industry's progress has won appreciation from all quarters not only in Pakistan but even by foreign countries. In a very short span of time the industry has turned itself from exporters of raw hides and skins into suppliers of finished leather and leather products. This has been possible due to zealous and untiring efforts of young foreign qualified Pakistani leather technologists and the far-sightedness of the ancestors. The entrepreneurs having marketing expertise and incorporating latest managerial techniques helped the rapid modernisation. With the installation of sophisticated leather processing machinery, Pakistan today is not only meeting its entire domestic requirements of leather and leather products but also exporting the surplus to more than 120 countries all over the world. The leather industry is playing a very vital role in earning the foreign exchange and it has emerged as the second largest foreign exchange earner in the manufacturing industry and it ranks third in overall exports in Pakistan.

By and large the leather industry is concentrated in Karachi and Lahore. The reason being availability of skilled and experienced semi-skilled labour and technicians as well as ready and developed markets for hides and skins at all these two places. The other centres where the leather and leather products industries located are at Hyderabad, Multan, Sahiwal, Kasur, Sargodha, Gujranwala, Sheikhupura, Sialkot and Peshawar.

Leather products
The leather industry has made a regular progress in production and export during last decade which is unparalleled in the history of development and progress of leather and leather products industries in any country of the world. It is anticipated that the future growth in leather and leather products industries will surpass all records since Pakistan now is not only using its entire raw material (hides and skins) but also utilising imported raw hides and skins from other foreign countries as well.

The private sector has made an all out effort in the expansion of the leather industry but it is mainly due to government's liberal policy and assistance in allowing import of duty free machinery for leather processing, with the result that today Pakistan is in a position to export large quantities of top quality finished leather and leather products as well as meeting the entire demands of indigenous leather-goods industries.

The export of leather is about 60 per cent of the total exports of leather and leather products but in order to achieve the maximum economic gain Pakistan must progressively put restrictions by way of imposing export duties on the export of leather and increasing the export of value added products such as shoes, gloves, leather jackets and leather goods and ultimately completely stop-

By Azim Kidwai

PAKISTAN in recent years has taken enormous strides in the development of technology. Our scientists have achieved a breakthrough in nuclear technology in the field of uranium enrichment, a feat which has earned our scientist world-wide acclaim. In addition, missile technology in Pakistan has seen significant advances through the development of three missiles.

Pakistan enters missile age: In 1989 Pakistan entered the missile age, as three consecutive successes, all in the defence sector, came to the fore. On February 5, 1989, came the announcement that "Pakistan has successfully fired and tested indigenously manufactured surface-to-surface long range missiles.... one having a range of 80 km, and the other 300 km.... These are extremely accurate systems and carry a load of 500 kg."

And only 10 days after was again front-paged another significant capability: "Pakistan's renowned scientist, Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan, handed over the

first consignment of shoulder-fired surface-to-surface missile (SAM), and laser range finder (LRF) to the chief of army staff

"The legendary Dr A. Q. Khan had been able to stage a 'hat-trick.'

Space technology: In the technological field, progress has also been attained in the domain of space. Suparco, the space organisation of the country, has been able to complete the fabrication of a low-orbit, tiny satellite that may be launched in the near future. The effort again is wholly indigenous. Only its launching may have to be done by some outside agency.

Suparco has also developed the capability to manufacture 3-stage rockets that can go up to 500 kilometers in space. Electronic equipment for use in space research is being fabricated by Suparco. Electronic assemblies for flight on-board are tested in a simulated flight environment, such as in vacuum and in low and high temperatures.

Broadcast equipment and transmitters: A good advance in the

field of broadcast equipment has been made in Pakistan; 300 kilowatt high power transmitters are being designed and fabricated locally by the Equipment Production Complex of the Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation. It has been producing high power radio transmitters up to 100 kilowatts as well. Broadcast equipment for various broadcasting houses in the country is also being fabricated. The research and development effort has made the country almost self-sufficient in the field of broadcast equipment.

Development in computer technology: Computer is another field in which the country has made headway. Computer-based systems are being increasingly developed in the public and private sectors. Some of the firms have installed telephone exchanges based on Suparco. Electronic assemblies for flight on-board are tested in a simulated flight environment, such as in vacuum and in low and high temperatures.

Broadcast equipment and transmitters: A good advance in the

Scientific and Industrial Research), a government-supported research complex, has been able to develop many products and processes and through them is helping in industrialisation of the country.

Algin and alginates: In the same organisation processes for isolation of algin and alginates from sea-weeds have been successful.

A survey carried out by its scientists showed that some 4,500 tons of sea-weeds can be collected annually from seashore. Algin is used in the production of plastics, artificial fibres, also in other sectors of textile industry.

Laboratory-scale processes: have been developed for manufacturing aluminium and zinc sulphides, compounds used in controlling pests and rodent menace.

Solar cells: the National Institute for Silicon Technology has developed solar cells indigenously for various applications, using single crystal silicon for production. Studies on amorphous silicon, that have some potential, are also on. These may lead to inexpensive solar cells.

Chemistry of natural products: Scientific researches of high level are conducted at the H.E.J. Institute (Hussain Ibrahim Jamal Institute of Chemistry) of the University of Karachi. H.E.J. is now being rated as one of the six best institutes in the chemistry of natural products in the whole world, and it is the best of its kind in the East, except Japan.

A large number of research papers are published by the institute every year in international journals. The focus is on the chemistry of natural products with an eye on their biological activity and medicinal value.

Protein chemistry: is another area that gets special attention at the institute.

Fractions of neem fruit: have been found to be very effective pesticides. Some of the fractions have shown anti-bacterial activity.

Anti-cancer compound: An active compound has been discovered that has anti-cancer properties and can be derived from *gud mehdi ke Pool* (Speranthus indicus).

Entering the missile age

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Starting from KD

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Monthly

Estimated leather garment production capacity

Year	Quantity Pcs	Value
1983-84	500,000	181,859
1984-85	800,000	242,822
1985-86	1,000,000	271,163
1986-87	1,600,000	454,688
1987-88	2,200,000	563,308

However Pakistan leather garment industries has shown gradual increase in production and exports during the period 1983-84 to 1987-88 as given under:

Year	Quantity (Pcs)	Value (000 Rupees)
1983-84	336,275	181,859
1984-85	498,266	242,822
1985-86	893,940	271,163
1986-87	1,226,927	454,688
1987-88	1,606,300	563,308

The above figures are indicative of the rate of progress of leather garment industry during the last five years and it had entered in the important markets of the world. But during last two years a downward trend had set in and in 1987-88 only approximately 22 per cent of the installed capacity could be utilised. Although we have now increased the installed production capacity in the country but in fact the actual production has been decreased due to several factors particularly the withdrawal of incentives by the government during last two years we lost the export markets in favour of our competitors. The recent steps taken by the government and all allowing again 20 per cent incentives/rebates on exports would help the industry to recapture the lost markets. It is anticipated that after getting these incentives and improved quality of finished leather in larger quantities would be available, the leather garment manufacturer and exports during next five years could reach Rs 600 million.

However, if this budding value added industry gets government's blessings and encouragements, this industry can grow rapidly and each and every unit (particularly those who are working as sister concerns of the present well-organised tanneries) would be in a position to produce and export 200-300 pieces in different designs, styles and sizes daily.

The Leather Products Development Centre (LPDC) Karachi in collaboration with CDG of West Germany and Unido had been instrumental in the uplift and development of the Leather Garments Industry particularly at Karachi.

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GM 40 YEARS

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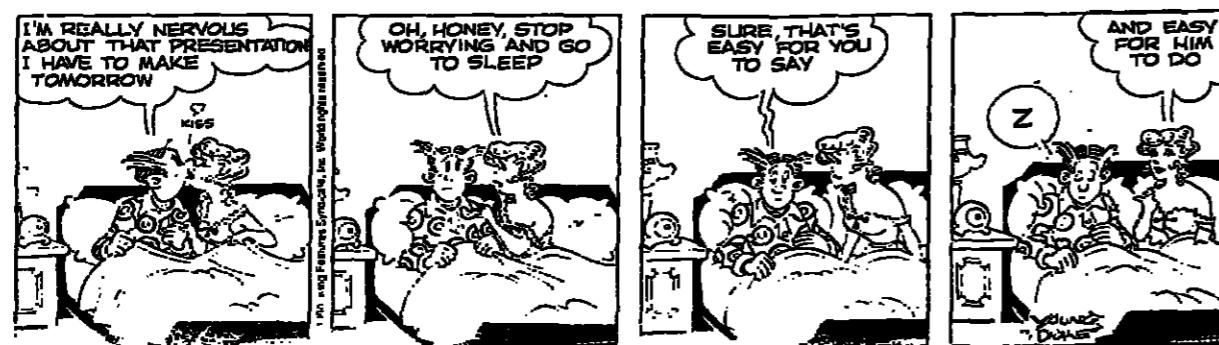
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مكتب الائتمان

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



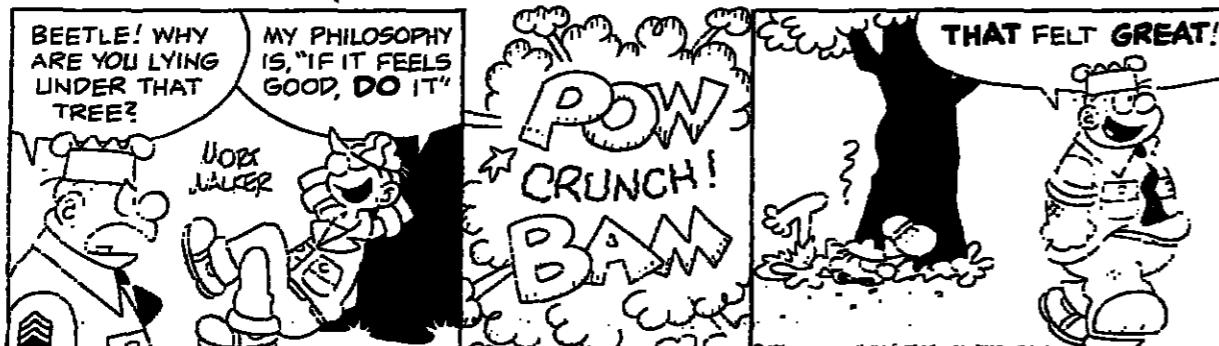
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



AGATHA CRUMM — By Lynn Hobbs



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

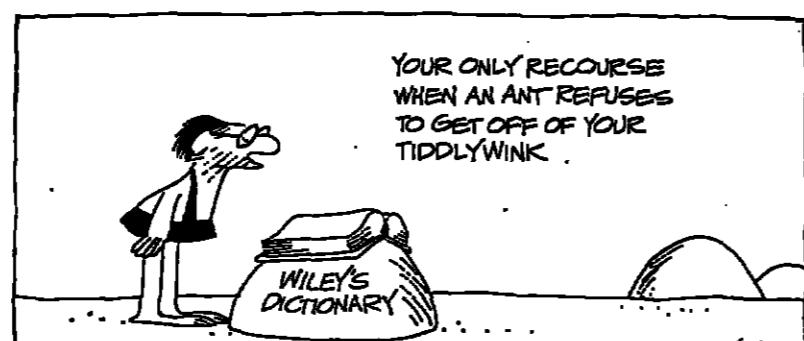
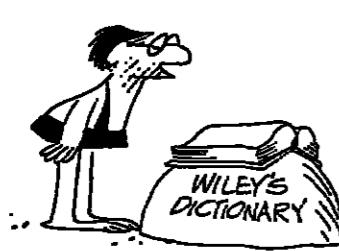


ANDY CAPP — By Johnny Hart



B.C. — By Johnny Hart

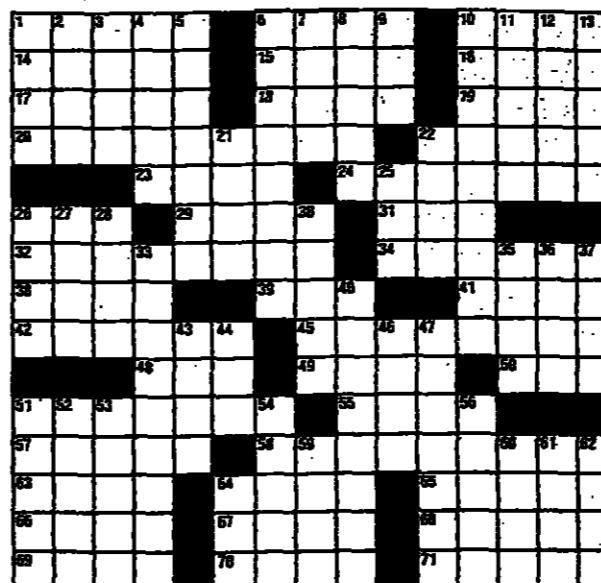
flippant



HE-MAN — By G. Forman & J. Shurtliff



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



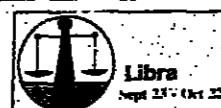
ACROSS
 1 Philippine island 6 Horse of different colors 10 Rugged rock 14 Heroine of a Broadway show 15 North Sea feeder 16 First rate 17 Most inferior 18 Side dish 19 Henpecks 20 Fragrant blooms 22 Confess 23 Space 24 Papal court 26 Beck and Kite's org. 29 Airport abbreviations 31 ABA member 32 Aromatic tree 34 Battled 36 Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize: 1984 39 All up (excited) 41 Windway 42 Mounted "The Tempest" 45 Statue 48 Confusion 49 Window part 50 Franklin 51 Paperback, sometimes 55 Kirghiz range 57 Toss out 58 Melons 63 Man of the house 64 Wimbledon star 65 Eldritch 66 Paradise 67 Spoken 68 Inspire

69 — majesté 70 Country singer Murray 71 Glossy

DOWN
 2 Canadian prov. 30 Ozoes 33 Tropical grass 35 Flippant 36 Titanic 37 Youngster 40 Percussion instrument 43 Work on copy 44 TV's Johnson 46 Mademoiselle 47 Giant killers 51 Push away 52 Escape 53 Bulldogs, for example 54 Prickle 56 Perfect 59 City in NW Algeria 60 Great Lakes port 61 Sagacious 62 Request 64 Scarf

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
 GIB SITARE MOHOW
 ONE ARRET ENOLA
 ONTOPOF THEWORLD
 MID AILS SIE
 DRUID PICK SEED
 RENT HALS EDS
 OED NESS SLUMPS
 OVEREAT BALLOON
 PERIOD ARNE USE
 FAN BLEED ETTE
 FOUL TACT OTHER
 AWN BOTH SMA
 UNIDER THEWEATHER
 NEEDY EMEER ORE
 ARDEN DYERS TAP

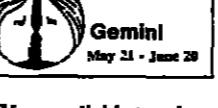
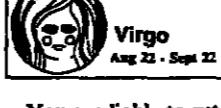
YOUR STARS

Aries
March 21 - April 19Cancer
June 21 - July 22Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22Capricorn
Dec. 23 - Jan. 19

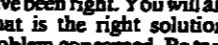
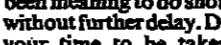
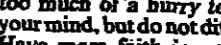
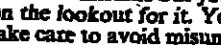
Your attention will wander, try to stop it. Something going wrong will cease to do so for no particular reason. Nothing is quite as you would wish it to be. Be observant.

You will at long last realise what you have been doing wrong. This realisation will also enable you to take corrective action. There is room for just a little more optimism. Be frank.

You will at long last realise what you have been doing wrong. This realisation will also enable you to take corrective action. There is room for just a little more optimism. Be frank.

Taurus
April 21 - May 20Leo
July 21 - Aug. 22Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 22Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Do not try to wreak vengeance — you will prevail even if you do not do so. Avoid living too much in the past, the present and future is what counts. Take enough exercise. Be considerate.

Gemini
May 21 - June 20Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 22Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

You are liable to get your sums wrong, so check your calculations carefully. Something you have been meaning to do should be done without further delay. Do not allow your time to be taken up with secondary matters. Be tactful.

You are liable to get your sums wrong, so check your calculations carefully. Something you have been meaning to do should be done without further delay. Do not allow your time to be taken up with secondary matters. Be tactful.

If you try too much intrigue and subterfuge you will lose out in the end, so don't. You should not be in too much of a hurry to make up your mind, but do not dither either. Have more faith in yourself. Be loyal.

Do not allow yourself to get into bad debt. You will be able to correct a mistake but you must be on the lookout for it. You should take care to avoid misunderstanding. Be generous.



"Wait 'til you see his backhand."



"Your scalp's very dry."



JAN GO LITA

GOLEN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOLEN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠AQ5 ♦8763 ♣85432

The bidding has proceeded:
 West North East South

1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
 4 NT Pass 5 ♠ ?

What action do you take?

A.—Almost certainly, the opponents will play in spades, so here's your chance to direct a lead with virtually no risk at all. Double. If nothing else, you will warn partner off a possibly fatal lead away from an honor in one of the minors.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠832 ♦Q10 ♣AQ92 ♠AQ54

The bidding has proceeded:
 West North East South

3 ♠ Dbl Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—At duplicate, we would bid three no trump—our club spots are not good enough for us to think we can beat them enough to compensate for our vulnerable game. At rubber bridge, we would pass and take the penalty. After all, you're still a three-to-one favorite to win the rubber.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠AJ7 ♦Q109 ♣643 ♠8762

The bidding has proceeded:
 West North East South

1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?

What action do you take?

A.—You don't have much, but you do have excellent spade support and dearly want partner to lead the suit if West declares. Bid two spades. The modern tendency is to react to partner's overcall as if he had opened the bidding in that suit.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠10963 ♦K7 ♣AK6 ♠035

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

A.—Normally, we don't approve of suppressing a major suit when responding to an opening bid. But when partner opens in a five-card heart suit, chances of his having four spades on the side are greatly reduced. In addition, your suit is so poor that we would bypass it in favor of jumping to two no trump—upgrading our king of hearts and intermediates surely upgrades the hand by at least one point.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠AJ3 ♦QAK ♣AQ83 ♠AKQ

What is your opening bid?

A.—The textbook opening bid with a balanced 25-27 points is three no trump. If you use three no trump for some other purpose, open two clubs and bid three no trump on your next turn.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠AJ4 ♦Void ♣KQ1087653 ♠AQ5

The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West

1 ♠ 1 NT ?

What action do you take?

A.—Since you have no interest in defending against a heart contract, don't even consider a double. And since no diamond bid would be forcing, forget about that suit. With such a distributional hand, you are not going to be able to find out what you want to know about partner's hand, so we suggest you make up your mind whether to bid four spades or six spades and go ahead and do it.

SPORTS

Villa and Rangers draw 1-1

LONDON, March 21, (Reuters): Queen Park Rangers striker Colin Clarke boosted Aston Villa's English soccer championship advantage yesterday.

Fifteen minutes after heading Rangers into a 50th minute lead, the Northern Ireland international gave away the free-kick from which Kent Nielsen scored and Villa salvaged a valuable away point.

The draw left Villa three points ahead of second-placed Liverpool in the title chase. Liverpool make up one of their two games in hand at Tottenham on Wednesday.

Results

English Division One		
Crystal Palace	1	Derby
QPR	1	Aston Villa
English Division Two	1	1
Blackburn	2	Portsmouth
Hull	0	Stoke
Ipswich	1	Swindon
Oldham	4	Bournemouth
Plymouth	1	Middlesbrough
Sunderland	0	Leeds
Watford	4	Brighton
Wolverhampton	2	West Brom
Blackpool	0	Leyton Orient
Bolton	1	Crewe
Brentford	2	Preston
Chester	1	Cardiff
Huddersfield	0	Reading
Northampton	2	Birmingham
Nottingham	1	Fulham
Nottingham	2	Sheffield United
Shrewsbury	1	Wigan
Swansea	0	Sheffield City
Walsall	1	Manfield
English Division Four	1	1
Carlisle	0	Doncaster
Chesterfield	2	Exeter
Grimbsy	3	Scarborough
Halifax	0	Lincoln
Hartlepool	3	Burnley
Southend	2	Huddersfield
Torquay	3	Cambridge
Scottish Division One	0	Falkirk
Allon	3	Scottish Division Two
Dumbarton	3	East Stirlings

SPORTS BRIEFS

Nair advances

ARUN Nair advanced to the semifinals at the 1990 Kuwait International Hotel's amateur tennis classic with an impressive 7-6 (7-5) 6-2 victory over Abraham G. Nair. Nair now faces top seeded Salih Bushnaq who advanced by defeating Nabil El Kady 6-2 6-1. In other men's singles action, second seeded Ayman Hillaawi fought off a late charge from A. Tamim to pull out a 6-3 6-4 win. F. Fadda also advanced with a walk-over in his match with M. Adham.

In doubles action, W. Alaa Lughud and A. Hillaawi coasted to a 6-1 6-2 win over C. Mroczek and A. Nagri.

In women's singles G. Barakat def. M. H. Kality 6-1 6-1.

B. Jasfar tough out a 4-6 6-3 6-4 victory over S. Kukkova. S. Kukkova defeated Y. Mittera 6-4 6-1. Semifinal action begins Thursday at 3:00 pm.

England win

POINTE-A-PIERRE, Trinidad, March 21, (Reuters): England beat the West Indies President's XI by 113 runs on the fourth and final day of their cricket match yesterday. Scores: England 252 and 278; President's XI 294 and 123.

Blondi wins

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 21, (Reuters): American Matt Blondi, swimming in his first major race since his seven-medal performance at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, won the 100-yard freestyle yesterday at the US swimming short course in hand at Tottenham on Wednesday.

Delgado takes leg

ANDORRA LA VELLA, Andorra, March 21, (AP): Pedro Delgado of Spain climbed ahead on a steep peak and held on to win the second leg of the Catalonian week cycling race yesterday, but compatriot Inaki Gaston stayed at his back wheel and took the overall lead.

Flight called off

INGLEWOOD, California, March 21, (AP): The World Boxing Council lightweight champion's fight between Raul Perez and Gundulme Rubio scheduled next Monday has been called off because Rubio failed to pass the state-assigned neurological exam.

Monaco win

MONACO, March 21, (Reuters): Monaco reached a European semifinal for the first time yesterday by sweeping through the Cup Winners' Cup returning on penalties after a goals draw with Real Madrid.

Goalkeeper Jean-Luc Etiori was Monaco's hero in the penalty shoot-out, won 3-1, twice saving superbly from Janko Jankovic and Andoni Ayara.

Cologne win

ANTWERP, Belgium, March 21, (Reuters): Cologne clinched a place in the UEFA Cup semifinals yesterday by holding Antwerp 0-0 in an ill-tempered match.

Cologne, defending a 2-0 first leg lead, fought their way through a first half in which Paul Steiner, Jann Jensen and Olaf Jansen were booked.

Horse race

POINTE-A-PIERRE, Trinidad, March 21, (Reuters): American Steve Caithness' bid to regain the British champion jockey's title has been given a boost ahead of the opening of the flat season at Doncaster tomorrow.

This year Caithness, already number one jockey to eight-time champion trainer Henry Cecil, will have first choice of all owner Paul Mellon's horses under the care of Ian Balding.

Richards out

POINTE-A-PIERRE, Trinidad, March 21, (Reuters): West Indies captain Viv Richards has been ruled out of the third cricket Test against England starting in Port of Spain on Friday.

Sheraton bridge

RESULTS of bridge game played at Sheraton Bridge Club on Tuesday.

N/S

1. Dr Zaid & Dr Qattan
2. Shah & Zabirah
3. Mukherjee & Ravi
Lello - N. Akel

E/W

1. Mrs Sager & Perera
2. D'Souza & Mrs Perera
3. Heneidi Ezzedin

A general body meeting will be held on Friday at 3 pm, after the tournament to elect new committee and prizes will be distributed.

First ever offshore powerboat race in island state

Bahrain to enjoy a spectacle



Victory boat during practice

BAHRAIN'S first ever offshore powerboat race will start tomorrow at 10:30 am from in front of Al Bandar Club. Twenty-five boats from Dubai, Jordan, Kuwait and Bahrain will participate in the race, which organiser Major Saeed Hareb of the Dubai Marine Club describes as a "celebration of powerboat racing."

The field for the race includes

seven boats from highly successful Victory team, including the unbeaten Victory 7, which will be crewed by Hamad Buhaliba and Tom Johnson. Four of the boats will compete in Group A, the remaining three will race in Group B.

In total, 15 boats from the

Emirates will be competing

against a handful of entries from

Kuwait, including Kouros

entrant Mishal Al Jarallah,

Sheikh Khalid Fahd Al Ahmed

Al Sabah and Sheikh Talal Al

Maktoob, but a strong fight

can be expected for third place.

"We have attended the Bahrain race to make it successful, not for many prizes. We simply want to spread the sport across the Middle East," said a spokesman for the Victory team.

The race is organised by Saeed Hareb, the newly appointed UIM Middle East co-ordinator.

"I see the Bahrain race as the first step towards a Middle East

Championship circuit," Hareb

told the Arab Times. "We expect this to happen next season, and to take part

competitors must enter races in

three out of the four countries

hosting events; Dubai, Kuwait, Jordan and Bahrain."

Meanwhile Dubai Marine

Club is opening registration for

its race on April 27th. "The race

will be open to all comers," said

Hareb.

As an added innovation to

the game into its peak level

of benefit of the audiences, it was

upon that players who will score

in the first quarter will not be

in the second quarter, and on

third and fourth quarters being

9.00 am Nissan Al Sabah

KAI; 10.30 am KRP vs KDD; 12.00 pm Al Ghaniya vs OTC; 1.30 pm KRC vs KPCB; 3.00 pm EKHC vs KHC; 4.00 pm KPCB vs KIA; 5.00 pm KPCB vs KIA; 6.00 pm KPCB vs KIA; 7.00 pm KPCB vs KIA; 8.00 pm KPCB vs KIA.

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